Vaccine for kids ahead?
Moderna attempting to be the first to offer vaccine to children under 6. **News, Page 4**

Giants make their picks
Giants take Oregon DE Thibodeaux and 'Bama OT Neal in NFL draft. **Sports, Page 1**

Yankees defeat Orioles
Yankees push win streak to six with 10-5 victory over the Orioles. **Sports, Page 1**

Warmer afternoon
Sunny and breezy, with a high of 60. **Sports, Page 6**

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CORONAVIRUS IN CONNECTICUT

CDC: 44% of state had virus

Numbers vary by state: An estimated 69.7% of Texas residents have had COVID-19, most of any state, followed by Mississippi, Utah, Oklahoma and Idaho. In Vermont, on the other hand, only 29.8% are thought to have had the virus. Only a handful of others are under 50%, including Connecticut.

Estimates quantify sweeping impact of omicron variant that pummeled the nation in the winter

By Alex Putterman
Hartford Courant

More than 44% of Connecticut residents have had COVID-19 since the start of the pandemic, a new estimate from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has found.

Of the 47 states for which data was available, Connecticut ranked 43rd in terms of the share of its population that had experienced COVID-19, with only Vermont, Maine and Hawaii having fewer residents estimated to have been infected. Nationally, 58% of Americans have had the disease according to the CDC estimate, which is updated through late February.

Those numbers are higher among children, with about 75% of kids 17 and under nationwide showing signs of having had COVID-19.

The CDC's estimates come from a long-running nationwide seroprevalence study, in which researchers analyze blood samples to determine whether someone has had COVID-19. Seroprevalence estimates are designed to account for not only positive tests that are reported to public health authorities but also cases that are never detected or reported.

The new CDC estimates quantify the sweeping impact of the

Turn to Virus, Page 3

JESSICA HILL/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

Heroes do all wear capes

Ian Marquez, 2, of Waterbury, receives a visit from superheroes at Connecticut Children's ninth annual Superhero Day on Thursday. The event, which features medical personnel and volunteers who don their favorite character capes and masks as they greet patients and visitors at the children's hospital in Hartford, had been virtual-only for the last two years due to the pandemic.

WAR IN UKRAINE

Biden seeks $33B in aid

Request to Congress made as attacks are renewed in capital

By Alan Fram, Zeke Miller and Aamer Madhani
Associated Press

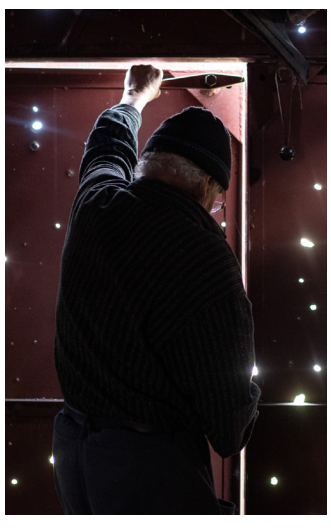
WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden asked Congress on Thursday for $33 billion to bolster Ukraine's fight against Russia, signaling a burgeoning and long-haul American commitment as Moscow's invasion and the international tensions it has inflamed show no signs of receding.

Russia escalated its pressure on Thursday, pounding targets from practically one end of Ukraine to the other, including Kyiv, bombarding the city while United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres was visiting in the boldest attack on the capital since Moscow's forces retreated weeks ago.

Several people were wounded in the attack on Kyiv, including one who lost a leg and others who were trapped in the rubble when two buildings were hit, rescue officials said.

Meanwhile, explosions were reported across the country, in Polonne in the west, Chernihiv near the border with Belarus, and Fastiv, a large railway hub southwest of the capital. The mayor of Odesa in southern

Turn to Ukraine, Page 2



Volodymyr Tykhonov, 76, opens his garage door on Thursday that is peppered with bullet holes in Zahaltsi, Ukraine.
ALEXEY FURMAN/GETTY

■ The U.S. House gave final passage Thursday to legislation that would streamline a military lend-lease program to more quickly provide Ukraine with American equipment. **Page 4**

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

3 youth mental health bills advance

By Seamus McAvoy
Hartford Courant

A trio of large bills aimed at addressing youth mental and behavioral health are marching through the state legislature as lawmakers seek unprecedented investments into programs and services before the session ends on May 4.

The three complementary bills — Senate Bill 1, Senate Bill 2 and House Bill 5001 — have now all cleared their chamber of origin, following the Senate's 33-2 vote Thursday evening to approve Senate Bill 1.

Connecticut's Office of Fiscal Analysis estimates that Senate Bill 1 could cost as much as $175 million, and Senate Bill 2 as much as $210 million, through the 2024 fiscal year.

Despite the large price tag, lawmakers on both sides of the aisle urged support for the sweeping policies amid a described crisis in youth

Turn to Bills, Page 3

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

House OKs changes in juvenile justice measure that allows GPS monitoring

By Christopher Keating
Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — State legislators voted overwhelmingly Thursday night for proposed changes in Connecticut's juvenile justice laws that are designed to target repeat criminals and reduce crime.

The bill speeds up arraignments for juveniles, allows youths to be held for eight hours instead of the current six hours as the suspect's criminal history is being investigated, and allows global positioning system (GPS) monitoring for repeat criminals while charges are still pending, among other provisions.

After a detailed debate, the state House of Representatives voted 129-17 with five members absent. The opposition came from 17 liberal Democrats in a vote after 9:15 p.m.

Democrats said that concerns about crime are overblown because crime has been trending downward and Connecticut ranks as the fourth-safest state in the nation. They rejected a "get-tough-on-crime" approach that they said did not work in the past as criminals need to be rehabilitated in order to continue living their lives.

Rep. Steve Stafstrom pushed for changes in the juvenile justice laws.
COURANT FILE

But Republicans countered that car thefts and other crimes have been increasing in various spots around the state, charging that the problems have been exacerbated by the police accountability law that was strongly opposed by chiefs and rank-and-file officers.

Rep. Laura Devlin, a Fairfield Republican who is running for lieutenant governor, said that her suburban constituents "certainly feel a whole lot less safe" than they did in the past.

"I wonder if we would have taken action sooner how many lives we could have saved," she said. "Are the programs working? Are we getting results? ... We need to look at what we are spending and if we are making a difference."

Turn to GPS, Page 3

Dabate 'stoic' in describing 2015 attack to his family

Richard Dabate was "stoic" at his in-laws' house the day after he says a stranger broke into his home and shot his wife, Connie Dabate's sister told a jury Thursday. **Connecticut, Page 1**

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FROM PAGE ONE

"The cost of this fight is not cheap, but caving to aggression is going to be more costly. It's critical this funding gets approved."

— President Joe Biden, whose request includes $3 billion in food and humanitarian programs

Ukraine

from Page 1

Ukraine said rockets were intercepted by air defenses.

Ukrainian authorities also reported intense Russian fire in the Donbas the eastern industrial heartland that the Kremlin says is its main objective and near Kharkiv, a northeastern city outside the Donbas that is seen as key to the offensive.

In making the request to Congress, Biden acknowledged the stakes of thwarting Russia's ambitions.

"The cost of this fight is not cheap, but caving to aggression is going to be more costly," Biden said. "It's critical this funding gets approved and as quickly as possible."

The request has about $20 billion in defense spending for Ukraine and U.S. allies in the region and $8.5 billion to keep Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's government providing services and paying salaries. There's $3 billion in global food and humanitarian programs, including money to help Ukrainian refugees who've fled to the U.S. and to prod American farmers to grow wheat and other crops to replace the vast amounts of food Ukraine normally produces.

A father and son stand in the yard of their destroyed home on Thursday in Lyman, Ukraine. **YASUYOSHI CHIBA/GETTY-AFP**

The package, which administration officials estimated would last five months, is more than twice the size of the initial $13.6 billion aid measure that Congress enacted early last month and now is almost drained. With the bloody war dragging into its third month, the measure was designed to signal to Russian President Vladimir Putin that U.S. weaponry and other streams of assistance are not going away.

"The world must and will hold Russia accountable," Biden said. "And as long as the assaults and atrocities continue, we're going to continue to supply military assistance."

Zelenskyy thanked the U.S. in his nightly video address to his nation. "President Biden rightly said today that this step is not cheap," he said. "But the negative consequences for the whole world from Russia's aggression against Ukraine and against democracy are so massive that by comparison the U.S. support is necessary."

The U.S. and others have pledged to step up deliveries of long-range and offensive weapons that Zelenskyy has pleaded for, and summaries of Biden's plan mention artillery, armored vehicles and anti-air and anti-tank weapons and munitions.

The proposal comes as Russia has halted gas supplies to two NATO allies, Poland and Bulgaria, increasing anxieties that the war and its repercussions, in one form or another, could spread elsewhere.

Biden promised that the U.S. would work to support its allies' energy needs, saying, "We will not let Russia intimidate or blackmail their way out of the sanctions."

Bipartisan support in Congress for Ukraine is strong, and there is little doubt that lawmakers will approve the aid request. But Republicans said they were examining the proposal's details, including its balance between defense and other expenditures, and would not reflexively rally behind Biden's $33 billion figure.

South Dakota Sen. John Thune, the No. 2 Senate GOP leader, said that while Republicans are committed to helping Ukraine, "It's a pretty eye-popping number."

The $20 billion defense portion of Thursday's package amounts to about one third of Russia's entire military budget and is well over Ukraine's $6 billion defense expenditures.

Both figures are for 2021 and were compiled by the Stockholm International Peace Institute, a Swedish organization that studies defense issues.

Meanwhile, in the ruined southern port city of Mariupol, Ukrainian fighters holed up in the steel plant that represents the last pocket of resistance said concentrated bombing overnight killed and wounded more people. Authorities warned a lack of safe drinking water inside the city could lead to outbreaks of deadly diseases such as cholera and dysentery.

Ukraine's military also said that in the Donbas region, Ukrainian forces had repelled six attacks by Russian forces over the past 24 hours.

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LOTTERY
Thursday, April 28

PLAY3 DAY
0 9 1 **WB:** 7

PLAY4 DAY
3 7 5 3 **WB:** 2

The late lotto numbers were not drawn in time for this edition. For results, please visit courant.com/lottery.

WEDNESDAY'S LATE NUMBERS

PLAY3 NIGHT
9 4 5 **WB:** 4

PLAY4 NIGHT
9 7 0 5 **WB:** 0

CASH 5
8 17 19 30 35

LUCKY FOR LIFE
4 6 13 24 41 **LB:** 16

POWERBALL
11 36 61 62 68 **PB:** 4 **PP:** 2

Tonight's est. Lotto jackpot: $1M

Tonight's est. Mega Millions jackpot: $43M

Saturday's est. Powerball jackpot: $20M

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FROM PAGE ONE

Virus

from Page 1

omicron variant wave that hit the country this winter. As of December, only 24% of Connecticut residents and 33.5% of Americans showed signs of prior infection, according to the CDC — before those figures rose to 39% in Connecticut and 43% nationwide the last time the CDC reported seroprevalence results in late February and jumped again with this latest release.

"I did expect it to increase. I did not expect it to increase quite this much," Dr. Kristie Clarke, co-leader of a CDC team that tracks the extent of coronavirus infections, told the Associated Press.

According to the CDC, an estimated 1,590,000 Connecticut residents have had COVID-19, representing about 44.4% of the state's population.

The CDC's estimate comes with significant error bars, with the true number anywhere from 38.1% to 50.7%, according to a public dashboard.

Other researchers using alternate methodologies have reached different conclusions about how many people have had COVID-19, with one model from the Yale School of Public Health and the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health estimating that 70% of Connecticut residents had experienced the disease as of February.

Through Tuesday, Connecticut had officially reported only 816,888 cases, a total that includes instances when the same person has been infected multiple times. More than half of those infections have come since the start of the omicron wave late last year, according to state data.

Experts say natural immunity derived from recent COVID-19 infection, in addition to vaccination, can help protect Connecticut against future coronavirus waves. Like vaccine immunity, however, natural immunity wanes over time, leaving people vulnerable to reinfection after about six months.

Connecticut has recently recorded a moderate uptick in cases and hospitalizations as a result of the BA.2 subvariant but has not seen an explosion of infections like what occurred over the winter, in a possible sign that natural immunity is having an effect.

Many of the U.S. states that have experienced the most COVID-19 cases, according to CDC estimates, are in more conservative regions, where vaccination rates are often relatively low and public officials have sometimes been less aggressive with precautionary measures.

Per the CDC, seroprevalence study, an estimated 69.7% of Texas residents have had COVID-19, most of any state, followed by Mississippi (69.4%), Utah (69.2%), Oklahoma (69.1%), Idaho (67.8%), Wisconsin (66.7%) and Alabama (66%).

In Vermont, on the other hand, only 29.8% of residents are estimated to have had COVID-19 as of late February. Maine, Hawaii, Connecticut, Virginia, Oregon, Colorado, New Mexico and Maryland were the only other states under 50%.

Alex Putterman can be reached at aputterman@courant.com.

Celina Daigle of Griffin Health performs a COVID-19 test on Harrison Fain at Eastern Connecticut State University in January 2021. A CDC analysis shows that nearly half of people in Connecticut have had COVID-19 at some point in the pandemic. **COURANT FILE PHOTO**

GPS

from Page 1

Rep. Jason Perillo, a Shelton Republican, said a listener would be unaware of crime while listening to many speakers at the Capitol.

"The fact, Mr. Speaker, is we do have a crime problem, and we have the headlines to prove it," Perillo said on the House floor. "Here's a myth. The myth is that this bill is going to fix that problem. ... Let's all understand. This bill is not going to fix the problem of crime. We're going to read the paper in three months, six months, a year, and we're going to see those same headlines."

Perillo added, "We have tied the hands of police officers that are trying to protect the residents of the state. I certainly don't see our law enforcement officers prioritized as we have done nothing to help them. ... This bill really could have made a difference. We've lost that opportunity. It's a shame."

The 22-page bill would allow longer prison sentences for serious crimes for young criminals - increasing the maximum to 60 months, up from 30 months, and allowing for a judge's discretion.

Rep. Geraldo Reyes, a deputy Speaker who is the leader of the Black and Puerto Rican Caucus, said police officers in his family would say it is wrong to believe that officers are not doing their jobs because of the state's police accountability law.

"We obviously have to do something because we need to save lives," said Reyes, a Waterbury Democrat. "Personally, I've gone to too many young funerals. ... I do hear gunshots in my neighborhood. ... It doesn't make me rest easy. ... It could be you. It could be me. We're just sitting in our homes."

Rep. Robyn Porter, a New Haven Democrat who opposed the bill, said that crime has been an issue in her hometown for years.

"Increased policing has not helped," Porter said on the House floor. "We don't talk about the root causes. ... My son went to prison. I never thought that would be my testimony. ... Parents that are absent. Children that are left to themselves. ... Kids are going to be kids, especially when there are no boundaries in place. ... This is something that I grew up with, and I'm over 50 years old. ... Everything we've done up to now has not worked."

Porter said that innocent victims can be injured by stray bullets in the cross-fire.

"I have to worry about being shot at my home, in my house," Porter said. "I've been living with this my entire life, and I think that what I say should carry some weight. ... I'm in the streets. I'm on the ground. I'm talking to these kids."

One of the key changes in the bill is that there will no longer be higher penalties for stealing a Rolls Royce in Greenwich than a lesser-value car. Instead, lawmakers said they were more concerned about targeting repeat offenders.

"If someone steals a Maserati, that is charged as a higher offense than a 15-year-old Toyota Camry in the west end of Bridgeport," said Rep. Steven Stafstrom, a Bridgeport Democrat. "This bill says a car theft is a car theft."

While saying he wanted more gun restrictions, Stafstrom said the bill is "a step in the right direction."

Rep. Joe de la Cruz, a Groton Democrat, said the worker shortage is caused in part because some youths have had trouble getting jobs due to their extensive criminal records.

"Look at the crime rate in Louisiana. Look at the crime rate in Texas," he said. "Shouldn't their legislators be flying up to Connecticut to say, 'How do you do it?' ... We have better schools and better teachers. That's how we solve crimes. ... We're not going to solve it by being tough. I hope you know that."

While Republicans had input in the bipartisan bill, they continued to express concerns about crime.

"I will not agree that we are the safest state in the nation," said Rep. Craig Fishbein, the ranking House Republican on the judiciary committee. "We were four times the national average in increase - that's not safety."

"Taking the cars out of the larceny schedule is very important," he said. "If someone steals four cars, and they're all valued at $5,000 each, the charge is the same."

Rep. Anne Hughes, one of the leading liberals in the legislature, and others raised issues in opposition to the bipartisan bill.

"I am concerned about GPS monitoring of youth pre-adjudication" while the charges are still pending, said Hughes, an Easton Democrat.

After a second car theft, a Superior Court judge will have the ability to order a child to be released into the custody of a parent by having a GPS monitor, rather than being sent to jail, Stafstrom said.

Hughes said she is concerned that "certain offenders get a slap on the wrist and other offenders, for the same issue, can get disproportionately impacted through GPS monitoring, which is traumatizing and distressing to a developing brain."

The bill will be a problem "for brown and black youth - let's just state it for what it is," Hughes said on the House floor. "It has lifetime barriers. ... I understand this is a compromise, and ... without an equity study, we have no business promoting this bill."

The funding for the GPS monitoring is $1.4 million, but some lawmakers thought that was too high for the number of young criminals involved.

"If the offender is non-compliant with the GPS monitoring, there is a path to detention," Stafstrom said.

"It provides the judge with the requisite discretion."

He said there is a higher chance for young criminals to commit more crimes "when kids go into prison, even for a short period of time."

Rep. Anthony Nolan, a Democrat who also works as a police officer, also had concerns about the GPS monitoring. He added that some officers pulled back on doing police work due to their opposition to the police accountability law.

"I find the GPS electronic devices to not be of any use other than to know when a kid goes in and out of the house," Nolan said on the House floor. "A GPS device does not stop crime. ... It's definitely not something I would like to see arresting kids more and putting them in lock-up."

"Some say crime has gone up. Some say crime has gone down," Nolan said.

Rep. Chris Rosario, a Bridgeport Democrat, said there is a stigma for young people with a bulky GPS monitor that is obvious to rivals and others. An Apple watch or fitbit would be far less intrusive than a bulky ankle monitor, he said.

"He had a fanny-pack," Rosario said, describing . "It looked like a Gucci bag."

But Rep. Patrick Callahan, a New Fairfield Republican who was the victim of two car thefts, said the bill would provide accountability and help prove that a youth was not involved in a car theft because the GPS would show exactly where he was.

"It's a great tool, an alternative to incarceration, and it helps kids," said Callahan, a probation officer for nearly 30 years. "This is a good amendment. It helps kids who have been in trouble once. It helps probation monitor them before it gets too bad. We can help the kids and help the victims of the crimes that have skyrocketed in recent years."

Christopher Keating can be reached at ckeating@courant.com

Bills

from Page 1

education and mental health.

"I did check, and I understand that all of the money is in the budget for [Senate Bill 1]," said state Sen. Paul Formica of East Lyme, a top GOP leader, who urged adoption. "It's going to be pushed forward in a thoughtful and comprehensive way, and it's going to be paid for in a way that's appropriate."

"There's a lot of good things in this bill," Senate Majority Leader Bob Duff, D-Norwalk, said, "which should make the people of the state of Connecticut, very proud, that we've come together with this legislation."

The bill, which originated in the legislature's Education Committee, deals primarily with investments in mental and physical health services for students and staff in schools and pre-K settings.

"Senate Bill 1 is part of the preventative strategy, and is going to be the primary prevention bill, but it has influence and impact through the school systems as well," said state Sen. Saud Anwar (D-South Windsor), describing the legislative package as "critical."

It includes direct salary relief for employees in early childhood care and education programs, who have been sounding the alarm about chronically low wages and a broken financial model.

During the public hearing period, program providers said the pandemic exacerbated employee turnover, as educators left for better-paying jobs elsewhere.

"It was very surprising that they were very low wages, given what the responsibilities were for these individuals," state Sen. Eric Berthel, R-Watertown, ranking member Education Committee.

Senate Bill 1 will invest about $70 million into the childhood care and education salary enhancement grant program, according to Sen. Doug McCrory, D-Hartford, with $50 million from the General Fund and another $20 million in carry-forward funds.

Supporting these investments "makes sense," Berthel said.

"There is some cost associated with a lot of the ideas and the proposals in this bill," Berthel said of Senate Bill 1.

"But I can say in good conscience today that I think the money that we will spend here... will be money well spent for the right reasons, and we are again protecting and improving the investment we make as a state in our young people, who are our future."

Anwar agreed, saying the pandemic would have been the "last nail in the coffin of this industry if we were not to intervene."

The bill also includes a new, $1 million scholarship for minority teacher candidates to be administered by the state Department of Education, which has already taken some steps to improve teacher diversity.

Educators of color still make up just 10% of Connecticut's teacher workforce, even though more than 47% of the state's students are children of color.

Under the bill, students of color enrolled in teacher preparation programs would be able to receive up to $20,000. Male candidates must receive at least half of the scholarships.

"You can't grow unless you have fertilizer," said McCrory, a longtime educator and teacher diversity advocate.

The bill provides $10 million in need-based grants for new and existing school-based health centers, including about $590,000 to support expansion at sites identified by a legislative working group.

Anwar, a medical doctor, said the school-based model in East Hartford schools has been "instrumental and effective" in addressing children's physical and emotional health.

Further funding is set aside for hiring and retaining school staff who provide mental health services, including social workers, counselors and nurses.

To address youth opioid use, the bill would authorize school nurses to purchase and administer opioid antagonists — including naloxone, known by the brand name Narcan — provided they receive training.

Anwar pointed out that Narcan does no harm to someone who is unconscious but not experiencing an overdose. "It's something very basic, and that should be there [in schools]."

The bill also tasks the state Department of Education with streamlining the educator certification process.

However, lawmakers rejected an amendment proposed by state Sen. Ryan Fazio (R-Greenwich) that would have waived certain certification fees for prospective teachers.

> ***"This is real. This bill is real. It makes real change. It is transformative. Sometimes we use those words, trying to pass a bill, but this is it."***
>
> *—Rep. Liz Linehan, D-Cheshire*

Companion bills

Like Senate Bills 1, Senate Bill 2 largely rolled through committees after its unveiling under the "Healthy Students, Healthy Schools" banner in February.

The Senate voted 33-1 last week to pass Senate Bill 2, another expansive proposal that would provide financial assistance to families seeking mental health services, expand mobile crisis center access, and commission a study to examine the mental health impacts of social media.

"There is going to be a cost," said state Sen. Tony Hwang, R-Fairfield, ranking member of the Public Health Committee. "And for me, as I said before, it is well worth it. It is an appropriate and necessary investment in the well-being of our children and future generations."

The House of Representatives passed House Bill 5001, a companion legislation that originated in the Public Health Committee, in a 149-0 vote on Wednesday.

"I can honestly say that I firmly believe that there has not been such transformative legislation that attempts to get to all of those things at once," said state Rep. Liz Linehan, D-Cheshire. "This is real. This bill is real. It makes real change. It is transformative. Sometimes we use those words, trying to pass a bill, but this is it."

The vote augurs well for the chamber's support of Senate Bills 1 and 2. Each chamber must vote on its opposite's bills before heading to the governor's desk, but votes are not expected until later in the session.

House Bill 5001 is also likely to cost several millions, but the price tag did not dissuade state Rep. Tammy Nuccio, R-Tolland, a freshman lawmaker who describes herself as a fiscal conservative, from voicing her support for House Bill 5001.

"I really don't like big aircraft carriers, but this is probably carrying about 50 attack planes on it, and I have to say that I love this bill," Nuccio said.

"I think the reason I like it so much is because it is so varied, and it really is covering the spectrum, A to Z, of what we have to accomplish here to help children and their mental health issues," Nuccio continued.

Under the 73-section bill, certain insurance providers will be required to cover two mental health wellness examinations each year, to be conducted by a licensed mental health professional.

Lawmakers hope this increases access while reducing the stigma surrounding mental health care.

It commissions the Department of Children and Families to work with the Department of Education to develop a peer-to-peer support program for middle and high school students.

It also includes grant programs, for K-12 students as well as those in colleges and universities, to subsidize the delivery of mental health services.

The Department of Public Health would be asked to develop a plan to waive licensure requirements for mental and behavioral health care providers who are licensed in other states, a move intended to make it easier for providers to set up shop in Connecticut.

During an emotional testimony on the House floor, state Rep. Tammy Exum, D-West Hartford, highlighted the lack of intensive outpatient programs in Connecticut.

"This is addressed in this bill. Now you can get the resources in one place, and understand how to get that help," Exum said.

That youth mental health has emerged as a crisis should be no surprise, said state Rep. Jonathan Steinberg, D-Westport, Public Health Committee chair. Connecticut has for years cut programs to compensate for its comparatively poor fiscal health, he said.

"When you shred the health care safety net, there is a price to pay," Steinberg said.

"We will be back. We will talk about mental health again," he added.

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OK sought to give youngest vaccine

Moderna asks FDA to clear kids under 6 for COVID-19 shots

By Lauran Neergaard
Associated Press

Ilana Diener and son Hudson, 3, participate in a Moderna vaccine trial last November in Commack, New York. **EMMA H. TOBIN/AP**

Moderna is seeking to be the first to offer COVID-19 vaccine for the youngest American children, as it asked the Food and Drug Administration on Thursday to clear low-dose shots for babies, toddlers and preschoolers.

Frustrated families are waiting impatiently for a chance to protect the nation's youngest children kids as all around them people shed masks and other public health precautions — even though highly contagious coronavirus mutants continue to spread. Already about three-quarters of children of all ages show signs they've been infected at some point during the pandemic.

Moderna submitted data to the Food and Drug Administration that it hopes will prove two low-dose shots can protect children younger than 6 — although the effectiveness wasn't nearly as high in kids tested during the omicron surge as earlier in the pandemic.

"There is an important unmet medical need here with these youngest kids," said Dr. Paul Burton, Moderna's chief medical officer. Two kid-size shots "will safely protect them. I think it is likely that over time they will need additional doses. But we're working on that."

Moderna said two kid doses were about 40% to 50% effective at preventing symptomatic COVID-19, not a home run but for many parents, any protection would be better than none.

That effectiveness is "less than optimal. We were hoping for better efficacy but this is a first step," said Dr. Nimmi Rajagopal of Cook County Health in Chicago. She's anxiously awaiting vaccinations for her youngest patients and her own 3-year-old son who's ready to enter preschool.

"It gives me such peace of mind to know that hopefully by fall I'll get him in school and he'll be fully vaccinated," she said.

Now, only children ages 5 or older can be vaccinated in the U.S., using rival Pfizer's vaccine, leaving 18 million younger tots unprotected.

Moderna's vaccine isn't the only one in the race. Pfizer is soon expected to announce if three of its even smaller-dose shots work for the youngest kids, months after the disappointing discovery that two doses weren't quite strong enough.

Whether it's one company's shots or both, FDA vaccine chief Dr. Peter Marks said the agency will "move quickly without sacrificing our standards" in deciding if tot-size doses are safe and effective.

While questions are swirling about what's taking so long, Marks pointedly told lawmakers earlier this week that the FDA can't evaluate a product until a manufacturer completes its application. In a statement Thursday, the FDA said it will schedule a meeting to publicly debate Moderna's evidence with its independent scientific advisers but that the company still must submit some additional data. Moderna expects to do so next week.

"It's critically important that we have the proper evaluation so that parents will have trust in any vaccines that we authorize," Marks told a Senate committee.

If FDA clears vaccinations for the youngest, next the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention would have to recommend who needs them — all such children or just those at higher risk from COVID-19.

"It's very important to get the youngest children vaccinated" but "moving quickly doesn't mean moving sloppily," said Dr. Philip Landrigan, a pediatrician and public health expert at Boston College. FDA must "see if it's safe. They need to see if it's effective. And they need to do so swiftly. But they won't cut corners."

The FDA will face some complex questions.

In a study of 6,700 kids ages 6 months through 5 years, two Moderna shots — each a quarter of the regular dose — triggered high levels of virus-fighting antibodies, the same amount proven to protect young adults, Burton said. There were no serious side effects, and the shots triggered fewer high fevers than other routine vaccinations.

But depending on how researchers measured, the vaccine proved at best about 51% effective at preventing COVID-19 cases in babies and toddlers and about 37% effective in the 2- to 5-year-olds. Burton blamed the omicron variant's ability to partially evade vaccine immunity, noting that unboosted adults showed similarly less effectiveness against milder omicron infections. While no children became severely ill during the study, he said high antibody levels are a proxy for protection against more serious illness — and the company will test a child booster dose.

"That's not totally out of the realm of what we would have expected," said Dr. Bill Muller of Northwestern University, who helped with Moderna's child studies. "Down the road I would anticipate it's going to be a three-shot series."

Another issue: So far in the U.S., Moderna's vaccine is restricted to adults. Other countries have expanded the shot to kids as young as 6. But while Moderna has filed FDA applications for older kids, too, the FDA hasn't ruled on them. Months ago the agency cited concern about a rare side effect, heart inflammation, in teen boys that hasn't been reported in much younger children.

It's not clear how many parents intend to vaccinate the youngest kids. Less than a third of children ages 5 to 11 have had two vaccinations, and 58% of those ages 12 to 17.

FDA releases its plan for ban of menthol cigarettes

Flavored tobacco deemed to target minorities, youths

By Matthew Perrone
Associated Press

A sign advertises menthol-flavored Newport cigarettes, along with other brands, on Thursday in Los Angeles. Menthol cigarettes are used by 85% of Black smokers. **MARIO TAMA/GETTY**

WASHINGTON — The U.S. government on Thursday released its long-awaited plan to ban menthol cigarettes and flavored cigars, citing the toll on Black smokers and young people.

"The proposed rules would help prevent children from becoming the next generation of smokers and help adult smokers quit," Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra said in a statement.

He added that the ban would also be an "important step to advance health equity" by reducing disparities in tobacco-related diseases.

The Food and Drug Administration said eliminating menthol cigarettes could prevent between 300,000 and 650,000 smoking deaths over 40 years.

Menthol accounts for more than a third of cigarettes sold in the U.S., and the mint flavor is favored by Black smokers and young people. Menthol's cooling effect has been shown to mask the throat harshness of smoking, making it easier to start and harder to quit.

The FDA said it will also seek to ban menthol and dozens of other flavors such as grape and strawberry from cigars, which are increasingly popular with young people, especially Black teens.

The agency's proposals on both cigarettes and cigars are only initial drafts and are unlikely to be finalized before next year. Companies would then have one additional year to phase out their products. Tobacco industry lawsuits could delay the prohibition for several more years, according to experts. For now, FDA leaders said they will take comments for two months and then proceed "as expeditiously as possible."

Altria, which sells menthol cigarettes and flavored cigars, said it disagreed with the ban.

"Taking these products out of the legal marketplace will push them into unregulated, criminal markets," the company said in a statement. "We will continue to engage in this long-term regulatory process."

The FDA has attempted several times to get rid of menthol but faced pushback from Big Tobacco, members of Congress and competing political interests under both Democratic and Republican administrations.

Regulators have been under legal pressure to issue a decision after anti-smoking and civil rights groups sued the FDA for "unreasonably" delaying action on earlier requests to ban menthol.

Menthol is the only cigarette flavor that was not prohibited under the 2009 law that gave the FDA authority over tobacco products, an exemption negotiated by industry lobbyists. The act did, though, instruct the agency to continue to weigh a ban.

Last April, the Biden administration pledged to try to ban menthol within the year, responding in part to African American groups who say menthol has led to lower quit rates and higher rates of death among Black people. Menthols are used by 85% of Black smokers.

"Black folks die disproportionately of heart disease, lung cancer and stroke," said Phillip Gardiner of the African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council. "Menthol cigarettes and flavored cigars are the main vectors of those diseases in the Black and brown communities, and have been for a long time."

In 2020, Gardiner's group and several others sued to compel the FDA to make a decision on a ban.

More than 12% of Americans smoke cigarettes, with rates roughly even between white and Black populations. In 2019, more than 18 million Americans smoked menthol cigarettes, with higher rates among young people, African Americans and other racial groups, according to the FDA.

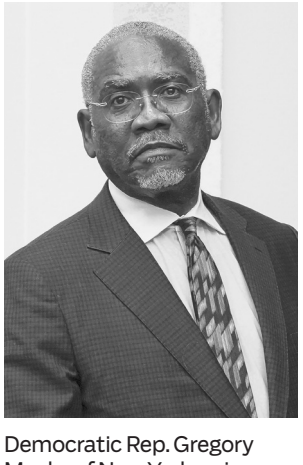
Thursday's proposals would not apply to electronic cigarettes, including leading brands like Juul and Vuse, which come in menthol.

The FDA never previously released a formal roadmap of how to accomplish the ban.

"This is the first time there's been support from an administration," said Mitch Zeller, who recently retired after nine years leading FDA's tobacco center. "If these rules are finalized they become the law of the land and it becomes illegal for menthol cigarettes and flavored cigars to be sold."

In recent weeks, dozens of interest groups — for and against the ban — met with Biden administration officials to try and influence the proposed rules, which would wipe out billions in tobacco sales. Conservative and civil rights groups that accept tobacco funding warned officials that banning could menthol could result in increased policing in Black communities.

While acknowledging those concerns, FDA Commissioner Robert Califf stressed that the agency's rules would target companies, not smokers.



Democratic Rep. Gregory Meeks of New York arrives on Capitol Hill on Thursday. **CAROLYN KASTER/AP**

House OKs military lend-lease bill to speed aid to Ukraine

By Lisa Mascaro
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. House gave final passage Thursday to legislation that would streamline a World War II-era military lend-lease program to more quickly provide Ukraine and other Eastern European countries with American equipment to fight the Russian invasion.

The measure, which passed by a 417-10 vote, now goes to the White House for President Joe Biden to sign into law.

House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Gregory Meeks of New York said with unified support from the Congress, "Ukraine will win."

The bill is the latest from Congress, which is steadily churning out resolutions and resources to counter Russian President Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine and help the country and its President Volodymyr Zelenskyy fight back.

The bipartisan bill was first introduced in January as part of the U.S. posture of deterrence to warn off Putin's aggression toward Ukraine.

The measure would update the 1941 legislation that President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed into law to help allies fight Nazi Germany. Roosevelt ushered the Lend-Lease Act through Congress, responding to British Prime Minister Winston Churchill's appeal for aid, even as America initially remained neutral in the war.

Speaker Nancy Pelosi said the war is a battle between democracy and autocracy, and echoed Roosevelt's call on Americans to provide the fuel to keep light of democracy burning.

"Our task today remains the same," said Pelosi, D-Calif. "The Ukrainian people are making the fight for all of us."

Lawmakers in both parties have argued the U.S. is not moving swiftly enough to help the Ukrainians. Democratic and GOP lawmakers have traveled to the region to see the devastation, meet with their counterparts in Ukraine and offer help with resettling the flood of more than 5 million refugees.

The measure updates the 1941 law specifically for the Ukrainian conflict, lifting some reimbursement requirements and allowing military equipment to be loaned or leased for more than five years.

Small town caught in path of war

Amid shelling that is constant, Orikhiv braces for Russians

By Michael Schwirtz
The New York Times

Tamara Mikheenko cries while hiding in a basement shelter Tuesday amid shelling in the town of Orikhiv, Ukraine. **LYNSEY ADDARIO/THE NEW YORK TIMES**

ORIKHIV, Ukraine — Squeezed between the Ukrainian and Russian front lines in an increasingly volatile battlefield in southeastern Ukraine, the small town of Orikhiv is constantly under fire, and Tamara Mikheenko, one of the few residents who remain, rarely leaves her basement.

"All the time in the basements, at night, under fire," Mikheenko, 70, said. "It's very scary, like a lightning bolt, everything is falling apart, the house is falling apart."

Struggling to communicate through tremendous sobs on Tuesday, Mikheenko begged world leaders, including the presidents of the United States, Russia and Ukraine, to do whatever was necessary to stop the savagery, even as Russian forces appeared to be preparing a large offensive that officials said could soon steamroll Orikhiv.

"Let them agree to stop this madness," she said.

The night before, an explosion had ripped into the unoccupied house next door, violently jolting the dark cellar Mikheenko was hiding in.

Orikhiv lies among a small group of tidy farming villages standing in the path of Russian troops advancing from the south and east. Ukrainian officials believe Russian forces are preparing to make a major push forward in an attempt to expand a stretch of territory they seized in the opening days of the war.

Shelling along this front has intensified in recent days and all over the region Ukrainian forces are digging new trenches and fortifying positions.

It is in and around these villages, still home to goats, cows and chickens, but to fewer and fewer people, that the current, pivotal phase of the war is being fought.

After failing to take the capital, Kyiv, and meeting as yet impenetrable resistance along Ukraine's Black Sea coast, President Vladimir Putin of Russia has turned the remaining might of his army on the fertile plains east of Ukraine's Dnieper River and a few key major cities.

Russian forces have gobbled up nearly 80% of the Donbas region, as well as a ribbon of land connecting Russian territory to the Crimean Peninsula, which Putin annexed in 2014. One by one, the towns south and east of Orikhiv have fallen into Russian hands.

Ukraine's forces, primarily from the 128th Separate Mountain Assault Brigade, are now dug into the wooded patches around and between these villages and the vast fields tended by their residents.

Soldiers from the brigade say they are preparing to halt the expected Russian offensive and even to push the Russian lines back.

But should Orikhiv also fall, Russian forces will have a nearly open path to the large industrial city of Zaporizhzhia, just under 40 miles away. Zaporizhzhia's prewar population of about 750,000 has swelled with the daily arrival of evacuees from nearby territory now occupied by Russian forces, including the battered port city of Mariupol.

Around Zaporizhzhia, a sense of impending danger is palpable. Air raid sirens now sound several times a day and the local military hospital is filled with troops coming in from the front lines with ghastly injuries.

On Tuesday, Russia's military launched a rocket attack against targets inside the city, narrowly missing its nuclear power plant, the largest in Europe when fully operational, according to officials. The rockets hit a city utility, killing one person, although the local government provided no further details.

Since the start of the war on Feb. 24, rocket attacks have been rare in Zaporizhzhia. Not so in Orikhiv. The town is just 3 miles from the Russian lines, and shelling occurs around the clock, becoming intense in the evenings. Several houses were hit overnight Tuesday, including the one belonging to Mikheenko's neighbor, Vitaliy Kononenko.

"This is what the Russian world has brought us," Kononenko said, inspecting the large hole punched through the front of his home. Inside, plastic ceiling panels had melted and the fur of a large teddy bear sitting in the window of a child's room was singed.

The house, which Kononenko said he had recently finished building, would have burned to the ground had Mikheenko's son, Aleksandr, not dashed from the basement to put it out.

Orikhiv's mayor, Kostyantin Denisov, said that, miraculously, the city has suffered no casualties. This is partly because of the decision early on to evacuate as many people as possible. Today, only about 30% of the city's prewar population of 20,000 remains, he said.

Some of those still in the city, like Mikheenko, stay holed up in their basements, but not everyone does. On Tuesday, among the clusters of neat single-family homes was the occasional resident fussing about in a blooming front garden. The sounds of gunfire, apparently target practice, sounded in the distance.

Denisov has stayed in place, refusing to leave his office in the peach-colored City Hall building. He is needed, he said, to help with the city's defense. It is not an easy task, as the 251-year-old town was once located on a number of trade routes and has at least seven roads leading into it.

"Now we have to close these routes off from our uninvited guests," he said. "That's our main task. We won't surrender."

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Grant reassessed as values change

Legacy of general, president fraught with contradictions

By Jay Reeves
Associated Press

Historian Anne Marshall says former President Ulysses S. Grant's standing has risen of late. **JAY REEVES/AP**

The legacy of President Ulysses S. Grant isn't getting any less complicated 200 years after his birth.

Grant battered the slave-owning South into surrender as President Abraham Lincoln's top Union general, yet he owned at least one enslaved person before the war.

A Native American man was among Grant's best friends and Grant was sympathetic toward Indigenous people, but he let white settlers overrun their lands as president.

A relentless attacker on the battlefield, Grant failed to prevent corruption in his administration.

Once widely viewed as a battlefield butcher and a drunk, Grant's life has undergone a reassessment in recent years. Grant is now considered by some to be America's first civil rights president, a troubled leader who did his best to protect freed slaves during Reconstruction after the Civil War.

"In the current memory wars, and boy are they raging, it seems particularly relevant that we revisit, revise and recast Ulysses S. Grant as a general who saved the Union and as a steadfast and essential president who both championed civil rights and made sure that the United States stayed together," said historian Joan Waugh, who wrote "U.S. Grant: American Hero, American Myth."

But Grant also tried to expel Jewish people from a Southern military district he oversaw in an ill-fated attempt to crack down on illegal cotton trading. And he favored a policy of "assimilating" Native Americans into white culture rather than letting them maintain their own traditions — a practice some now view as cultural genocide.

Similar to Lincoln, who didn't view Black people as fully equal to white people yet issued the Emancipation Proclamation, it's difficult to judge Grant based on today's norms, said Edna Greene Medford, a history professor at historically Black Howard University.

"These are 19th century men and they were more progressive than average men during that period, but they're still struggling with some very basic issues," Medford said.

Medford's and Waugh's comments came at a symposium held last month to kick off a series of events marking the 200th anniversary of Grant's birth on April 27, 1822. It was held at the Grant presidential library — located, oddly enough, in Mississippi, the scene of Grant's epic, war-altering victory at Vicksburg.

Other bicentennial events include a living history weekend at the Grant historic site in St. Louis, where he lived before the war; a birthday party in Clermont County, Ohio, where he was born; and a ceremony at Grant's tomb on the Hudson River in New York.

After serving in the Mexican War and failing repeatedly at business, Grant rejoined the Army and rose to become its top commander. Grant was elected to the first of two terms as president as a Republican in 1868, three years after Lincoln's assassination and the end of the war. He died in New York in 1885.

A reassessment of Grant that began more than 20 years ago has gained steam as the nation grapples with statues and monuments erected after the Civil War by Confederate descendants who tried to portray Southern leaders as noble, and the war's cause as something other than slavery.

While Grant was widely revered at the time of his death and is pictured on the $50 bill, promoters of the "Lost Cause" version of history reinforced the view that Grant sent troops to slaughter indiscriminately in a war that claimed 620,000 lives, and was a heavy-drinking dullard. Grant's standing has risen as Confederate statues have come down, historian Anne Marshall said.

"I don't think these monuments coming down causes people to reassess Grant. But it's part of the same process," said Marshall, executive director of the Ulysses S. Grant Association and the Grant presidential library at Mississippi State University.

As the nation's values changed, other parts of Grant's life have gotten more attention, Marshall said. That includes his work to guarantee civil and voting rights for freed slaves and his fight against the Ku Klux Klan, which murderously imposed white control in the South after the Civil War.

So has Grant's fight against what likely was alcoholism, considered a moral failing at the time but now recognized as a disease. Ron Chernow's best-selling 2017 biography, "Grant," detailed the way Grant largely overcame an addiction to alcohol that threatened to derail his early military career.

"I think now, on many different levels, people are willing to rethink these things," Marshall said.

Still, Grant doesn't get a pass on other troubling parts of his record, including his own ties to slavery.

Grant's father was an abolitionist, and the general came to see the necessity of eliminating the ownership of people through war. Yet he also was the last slave-owning president. Grant acquired a man named William Jones from his father-in-law and freed Jones two years before the war. He is given some credit for granting Jones freedom rather than selling him, particularly since Grant was all but broke at the time.

Despite that, some say Grant doesn't deserve a second chance, given the way he benefited from enslavement, his treatment of Native Americans or his order that attempted to ban Jewish people from part of the South. Some suggested removing Grant's tomb from beside the Hudson River in Manhattan because of the wartime order, later rescinded by Lincoln. Protesters in San Francisco tore down a Grant monument in 2020.

Similar to Lincoln, Grant also worried about whether Black men who weren't educated while in bondage should be allowed to vote — women didn't have suffrage at the time — and it's difficult to judge his views in today's cultural climate, said Medford, who spoke at the symposium.

But Grant gets credit for the 1875 Civil Rights Act, she said, and he favored the 15th Amendment, which outlawed using race and past enslavement as a disqualification for voting.

Despite a policy to "civilize" Native Americans and the era's ongoing Indian wars, Grant also appointed a Native American aide, Ely Parker, to lead the Bureau of Indian Affairs. He opposed outright extermination of tribes, even as he let white settlers move on to Native lands despite treaties, and then deployed the Army to protect the interlopers.

Medford said that when it comes to Grant, there's a "disconnect" between the 1800s and 2022 that's difficult to bridge.

"But I think we always have to remember the times," she said.

Ukrainian emergency workers and locals remove debris of destroyed houses Thursday after a Russian rocket strike in a residential area in Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine. **FRANCISCO SECO/AP**

WAR IN UKRAINE

Southern city's residents reel in wake of Russian rocket hit

By Cara Anna
Associated Press

ZAPORIZHZHIA, Ukraine — The boy was at home when the rocket struck across the street and the window shattered. Stunned, he found his father and crawled under his blanket. They clung to each other and asked, "Are you still alive?"

Then the father noticed blood. Glass shards had cut the boy's right leg to the bone.

The 11-year-old boy was one of at least three people wounded Thursday morning in what emergency officials called the first strike in a residential area of the southern city of Zaporizhzhia since Russia's invasion began. The city has been a crucial waypoint for tens of thousands of people fleeing the besieged southern port of Mariupol and is home to Europe's largest nuclear plant.

The rocket strike came as parts of southern Ukraine are preparing for a further onslaught by Russian forces who seek to strip the country of its Black Sea and Sea of Azov coasts.

Residents said at least eight homes in the modest neighborhood were damaged or destroyed.

The rocket had been hit by Ukraine's anti-aircraft system, emergency services official Pavlo Zhukov said at the scene, adding that a direct hit on the neighborhood would have been far worse.

The boy's father, Vadym Vodostoyev, stood in the courtyard and held up his still-shaking hands.

"There's no military here, no strategic facilities," he said. "We were no threat to them."

He thought of his son and came close to tears."It just takes one second and you're left with nothing," he said.

Ukrainians have been living with that fear for two months now.

The rocket bent a metal garage door inward, rippled ceilings and cracked walls. It killed a neighbor's dog.

Katerina Klimasheva, 68, was standing in her kitchen making coffee. The shock wave from the rocket slammed the door of her cupboard into her. It left glass shards embedded in the chest of one of her sons.

"Fascists," she said of the Russian leadership in Moscow. "I'm Russian. We're Russian. But I've lived here all my life. I've not seen such people. And then they say attacks like these are false."

Klimasheva said she assumed the rocket had been meant for the railway nearby or for the local steel plant. Russia has been targeting Ukraine's infrastructure for weeks, smashing factories, fuel depots, bridges and highways in a destructive fury that will take billions to rebuild.

Another of her sons, Anatoly Kongurtsev, waved a hammer through the broken kitchen window in anger.

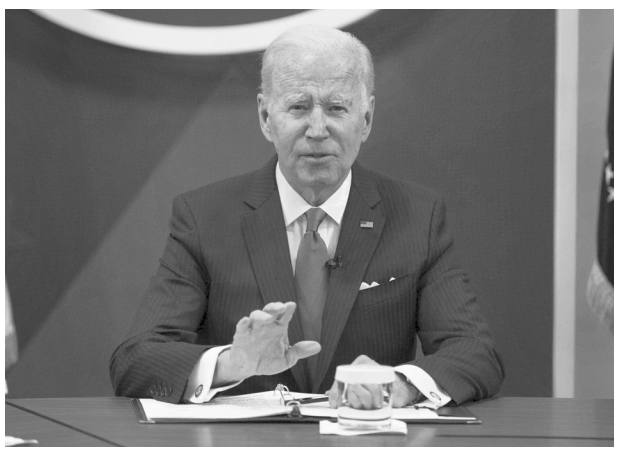
"Attacking children? What can I say?" he said. "They're swine."

Across the street, steps from the rocket's crater, 26-year-old construction worker Artem Lazarenko was thankful he had woken up and wandered into a back room of his now-destroyed house. Dried blood crusted in his left ear where his eardrum had burst.

"Nobody knows what's inside their heads," he said of the Russians. "Nobody wants to fight, but I will if I have to."

Negative report on economy blunts Biden's pitch to voters

By Josh Boak
Associated Press



Hours after a troubling economic report was released, President Joe Biden meets with small business owners on Thursday at the White House. **JIM WATSON/GETTY-AFP**

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden's upbeat message that the economy is cruising along hit a troublesome speed bump on Thursday when the federal government reported that U.S. gross domestic product shrank during the first three months of 2022.

Economic activity declined at annual rate of 1.4%, a sharp reversal from last year when growth was the strongest since 1984. There were technical reasons for the decline that likely obscured the actual health of the economy, yet the drop clearly put the president on the defensive after he has said repeatedly that the booming job market means the U.S. can withstand inflation at a 40-year high.

Biden's $1.9 trillion coronavirus relief package was supposed to propel the economy to new heights that Democrats could then sell to voters in this year's midterm elections. But the muddled data has weakened the clarity of Biden's pitch and emboldened Republican criticism.

The president told reporters at the White House that the consumer spending and business investment portions of the GDP report were solid, evidence that growth should resume in the months to come. The biggest drag on GDP was an increase in imports, but a one-off glitch — a sharp drop in business inventories — was a key contributor to the overall drop. The inventory decline reflected the aftershocks of the pandemic, rather than the underlying health of the economy, Biden said.

"What you're seeing is enormous growth in the country that was affected by everything from COVID and the COVID blockages that occurred along the way," Biden said.

While the president maintained there would not be a recession this year, he conceded it was a concern.

Following last year's coronavirus relief package, the government is now trying to calm the economy. There is less fiscal support as the federal deficit will likely be lower this year. At the same time, the Federal Reserve is trying to raise benchmark interest rates to reduce inflation without causing a downturn.

But Thursday's report gave Republican lawmakers a direct line of attack.

"Under President Biden's leadership, our economy is actually shrinking," Texas Rep. Kevin Brady said at the start of a House Ways & Means Committee hearing Thursday. "The president has missed four of the five quarterly economic projections. So Americans ought to brace for slower job growth and higher prices ahead."

What the GDP report actually reveals about the months ahead may be more complicated. Some economists see the consumer spending and business investment as signs of a quick rebound, while others fear that consumer spending could weaken because of high prices and the efforts to reduce inflation.

"Underlying demand remains strong, and the labor market is in excellent shape," said Gus Faucher, chief economist of PNC Financial Services. "Growth will resume in the second quarter."

One senior White House official said the various disruptions of the past two years have hurt the reliability of traditional economic indicators, masking what the administration sees as a solid economy.

The official, who insisted on anonymity to discuss the GDP report, said the key to overcoming this challenge will be to get the American people to focus on the bigger picture instead of monthly and quarterly reports.

On Thursday afternoon, Biden tried to pull attention back to that bigger picture by inviting small business owners to the White House. He noted that Americans have emerged from the pandemic as more entrepreneurial with 5.4 million applying last year to start new businesses. That's 20% higher than any other year on record.

"We have every indication that this trend is going to continue," Biden said. "The reason for that is because we're giving people financial security to take a risk and pursue their small business dreams."

WORLD & NATION

NEWS BRIEFING

Top Democrats push for FTC to crack down on gas-price gouging

From news services

WASHINGTON — Citing growing worries about high gasoline prices, Democratic leaders announced an effort Thursday to give the Federal Trade Commission increased authority to crack down on companies that engage in price gouging.

In doing so, they downplayed the possibility of other options such as a federal gas tax holiday or offering oil companies more government incentives to increase production. Instead, they said the FTC needs more tools, including stiffer fines and penalties and a team of dedicated experts to monitor markets and go after price gouging.

With voters concerned about the growing toll of inflation, Democrats again signaled their intention going into November's midterm elections to place much of the blame for high gas prices on oil companies. Democrats accused oil executives of "ripping off the American people" at a hearing this month.

"There's no excuse for big oil companies to profiteer, to price gouge or exploit families," House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said Thursday.

"Congress must do more to beef up the FTC's ability to crack down on potential gas price manipulation and price gouging," added Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y.

The average price of a gallon of gas was $4.14 Thursday, according to AAA, and is markedly higher than that in California and other western states. Sen. Maria Cantwell, a Washington Democrat who chairs the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee, said Congress strengthened the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's authority to investigate and punish energy market manipulation some two decades ago.

That was following the Western energy crisis of 2000 to 2001 when Enron and affiliates were found liable for engaging in various market manipulation schemes.

She said the FTC needs a dedicated team of experts monitoring transportation fuels and looking out for any suspicious pricing behavior, and it needs authority to enact fines and penalties that would lead to corrective action. A draft description of the legislation says it would double the maximum penalty for manipulating wholesale oil markets to up to $2 million a day for each violation.

Holocaust remembrance: Polish President Andrzej Duda walks with Holocaust survivor Edward Mosberg as they arrive to lay a wreath Thursday at the former Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp in Oswiecim, Poland. Duda was among thousands to take part in the March of the Living commemoration to remember the 6 million Jews killed. **WOJTEK RADWANSKI/GETTY-AFP**

Turkish-Saudi relations: Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan landed in Saudi Arabia on Thursday in a major reset of relations between two regional powers following the slaying of a Saudi columnist in Istanbul.

The visit marks the latest in Ankara's bridge-building efforts with its key rival. It is also Erdogan's first visit to the kingdom since 2017, the year before the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi by Saudi agents.

Erdogan was greeted at the airport in the Red Sea city of Jiddah by the Mecca governor. Official photos released by the Saudi Press Agency and the kingdom's Media Ministry showed Turkey's leader accompanied by his wife.

Earlier this month, Turkey dropped the trial of 26 Saudis suspected of involvement in the killing of Khashoggi, who'd written columns critical of Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman for The Washington Post.

The move was largely seen as a gesture that paved the way for Erdogan's trip.

Chauvin appeals: Former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin is appealing his conviction for murder in the killing of George Floyd, arguing that jurors were intimidated by the protests that followed and prejudiced by heavy pretrial publicity.

Chauvin asked the Minnesota Court of Appeals in a court filing Monday to reverse his conviction, reverse and remand for a new trial in a new venue, or order a resentencing.

Last June, Chauvin was sentenced to 22 ½ years in prison after jurors found him guilty of second-degree murder, third-degree murder and second-degree manslaughter.

Floyd died on May 25, 2020, after Chauvin pinned the Black man to the ground with his knee on his neck for 9 minutes, 29 seconds. Floyd had been accused of passing a counterfeit $20 bill at a convenience store.

Three other fired officers face state trial this summer after being convicted in federal court this year of violating Floyd's civil rights.

Okla. abortion ban: The Oklahoma House gave final approval on Thursday to a Texas-style abortion ban that prohibits the procedure after about six weeks of pregnancy, before many women know they are pregnant.

The bill approved by the GOP-led House on a 68-12 vote without discussion or debate now heads to Republican Gov. Kevin Stitt, who is expected to sign it within days. The abortion bill, dubbed the Oklahoma Heartbeat Act, prohibits abortions once cardiac activity can be detected in the fetus, which experts say is roughly six weeks into a pregnancy.

A similar bill approved in Texas last year led to a dramatic reduction in the number of abortions performed in that state, sending many women seeking the procedure to Oklahoma and other states.

Oklahoma House members also voted Thursday to adopt new language prohibiting transgender students from using school restrooms that match their current gender identity and requiring parental notification ahead of any classroom instruction on sexual orientation or gender identity.

Prisoner exchange: Trevor Reed is back in the United States one day after the Marine veteran was swapped for a Russian drug trafficker in a prisoner exchange between Washington and Moscow, his mother tweeted early Thursday.

His destination was not immediately clear. Reed's parents live in Granbury, Texas, near Dallas.

Reed was swapped in Turkey on Wednesday for Konstantin Yaroshenko, who had been serving a 20-year prison sentence in a cocaine trafficking conspiracy case.

Reed, 30, was arrested in the summer of 2019 after Russian authorities said he assaulted an officer while being driven by police to a police station following a night of heavy drinking. He was later sentenced to nine years in prison.

Ransom legislation: Nigerian lawmakers have taken steps to bar the payment of ransoms to kidnappers at a time when thousands are in captivity, including passengers kidnapped during a train attack in late March near the nation's capital.

Nigeria's Senate passed a bill amending the country's Terrorism Prevention Act to bar the ransom payments. It said the amendment will "prevent terrorist groups from laundering money."

However, the legislation could cause more harm to kidnap victims and their families if the bill is signed into law by President Muhammadu Buhari, activists and Amnesty International's Nigeria office said Thursday.

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BUSINESS

US GDP shrinks for first time since pandemic hit

Economists see growth for rest of '22 based on job market, consumer spending

By Christopher Rugaber
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. economy shrank in the first three months of the year, and faces threats from high inflation and rising interest rates, yet economists foresee a return to growth for the rest of 2022, based on the strength of the job market and consumer spending.

The 1.4% quarterly decline in gross domestic product — the first contraction since the pandemic hit in 2020 — is not likely a prelude to recession, economists say. That may bring little comfort to President Joe Biden and Democrats, who face midterm elections this year in which rising prices for food, energy and other essentials will be a major theme of Republican opposition.

Two trends drove the U.S. economy's decline last quarter, according to Thursday's report from the Commerce Department:

First, imports soared nearly 20% as Americans bought more foreign-made goods, while exports fell almost 6% as growth slowed overseas — a widening of the trade deficit that subtracted 3.2 percentage points from GDP.

Second, after furiously restocking their inventories ahead of last year's holiday shopping season, businesses did so at a slower pace at the start of this year.

As a result, first quarter GDP — the nation's total output of goods and services — fell far below the 6.9% annual growth in the fourth quarter of 2021.

However, rising wages bolstered spending by households, and higher profits drove investment by companies. Together these factors suggest strong fundamentals for the U.S. economy, even in the face of challenges from the pandemic, the war in Ukraine and the Federal Reserve's plans to raise interest rates to fight inflation.

"The report isn't as worrisome as it looks," said Lydia Boussour, lead U.S. economist at Oxford Economics. "The details point to an economy with solid underlying strength that demonstrated resilience in the face of Omicron, lingering supply constraints and high inflation."

The U.S. economy is in an unusual and challenging position.

The job market — the most important pillar of the economy — remains robust, with the unemployment rate near a 50-year low of 3.6%, and wages rising steadily. And in the January-March quarter, businesses and consumers increased their spending at a 3.7% annual rate after adjusting for inflation.

Economists consider these trends a better gauge of the economy's core strength than the latest GDP figure.

Still, serious threats have emerged. Supply chain disruptions in China and elsewhere are still a pandemic-era reality, and the war in Ukraine is contributing to higher inflation.

The first quarter's weak showing also reflected a slowdown from last year's robust rebound from the pandemic, which was fueled in part by vast government aid. With stimulus checks and other government supports having ended, consumer spending has slowed from its blistering pace.

Women sort tobacco on April 9 at a farm outside the Zimbabwean capital city of Harare. **TSVANGIRAYI MUKWAZHI/AP**

Tobacco making a comeback

In Zimbabwe, crop bounces back amid environmental and child labor concerns

By Farai Mutsaka
Associated Press

HARARE, Zimbabwe — Africa's biggest tobacco grower and one of the world's top exporters of the nicotine leaf, the country of Zimbabwe has opened its selling season for the crop amid pledges to fight deforestation and child labor in response to pressure from rights groups, environmentalists and international buyers.

Tobacco is on a rebound in a nation where production plummeted from a peak of 290,000 tons in 1998 to less than 60,000 tons a decade later following the eviction of several thousand white farmers who accounted for the majority of growers.

In recent years Zimbabwe has rapidly increased the size of its crop, regaining its spot as one of the world's top five exporters of tobacco. It exported just over 220,000 tons of tobacco in 2021, according to the Tobacco Industry Marketing Board.

This year's crop is expected to be about 10% or 15% smaller due to unfavorable weather, according to one of the country's biggest merchants TSL Limited.

Tobacco is one of Zimbabwe's biggest earners of foreign currency alongside minerals such as gold and funds sent by Zimbabweans living outside the country. Tobacco earned Zimbabwe about $1.2 billion in exports last year and the government would like to see that increase "into a $5 billion industry by 2025," Agriculture Minister Anxious Musuka said.

The government hopes to encourage an increase in the size of the tobacco crop to 330,000 tons annually by providing more local funding to farmers, Musuka said.

With tobacco's proven role in causing cancer, international marketers are urging Zimbabwe to avoid any other controversy by producing the crop in ways that don't harm the environment or use child labor.

The bulk of Zimbabwe's flue-cured tobacco crop now comes from more than 100,000 small-scale Black farmers, many resettled on formerly white-owned farms. Small-scale farmers produced about 147,000 tons, about 63% of the total crop sold last year, according to the tobacco marketing board.

This massive shift from large-scale commercial farming has changed who does the work producing the crop. The big white-owned commercial farms used to employ scores of full-time workers but now the small farms are mostly family operations that often rely on child labor, say rights activists.

Another problem is that many of the new smaller tobacco growers can't afford the electricity or coal needed to cure the tobacco leaves so they cut down nearby trees, causing Zimbabwe's forests to decline by about 15% to 20% annually in recent years, according to researchers.

Under international pressure, Zimbabwe's tobacco industry is trying to reduce these problems, said Meanwell Gudu, CEO of the tobacco marketing board.

The country has been on "a blitz of afforestation" that includes farmers receiving tree seedlings to establish woodlots in their areas, according to Gudu.

Reducing the use of child labor could be harder because many families have been doing that for generations, some farmers said. Children as young as 5 work in the fields with their parents as part of their normal upbringing, they said.

A 2018 report by Human Rights Watch stated that children on Zimbabwean tobacco farms "work in hazardous conditions, performing tasks that threaten their health and safety or interfere with their education." The report noted that "child workers are exposed to nicotine and toxic pesticides, and many suffer symptoms consistent with nicotine poisoning."

UK again delays post-Brexit border checks

By Jill Lawless
Associated Press

LONDON — Britain announced Thursday that it is postponing until the end of 2023 some checks on imports from the European Union that are required under post-Brexit trade rules, citing economic disruption caused by the war in Ukraine.

It's the fourth time the U.K. has delayed checks it agreed to as part of its divorce deal with the EU. The two sides have been bickering since Britain left the 27-nation bloc about the new arrangements, with a set of special rules for Northern Ireland proving a particularly tough sticking point that risks sparking a trade war.

Since Britain left the EU's single market at the end of 2020, imports from the bloc are supposed to be subject to the same checks as goods from everywhere else in the world. But while some controls have been introduced by the U.K., others have been delayed.

The British government said measures that were due to take effect from July 1 — including physical checks on fresh food and a ban on EU sausages and chilled meats — "will no longer be introduced this year."

It said "Russia's illegal invasion of Ukraine, and the recent rise in global energy costs, have had a significant effect on supply chains that are still recovering from the pandemic," and checks would put a further burden on struggling businesses.

Britain said it would aim to bring in the new measures "in an improved way" at the end of 2023.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson's spokesman, Max Blain, said Britain was "working on a new model" that would use the latest data and technology to ease burdens on businesses.

Like other countries, Britain has experienced months of sporadic supply problems, with gaps on supermarket shelves, fast-food outlets running out of chicken and some pubs running dry of a full selection of beer. Experts cite a perfect storm of factors, including Brexit and COVID-19, leading to worker shortages in key areas such as trucking. Russia's invasion of Ukraine, which has driven up cost of essentials including fuel and cooking oil, has made things worse.

Yellen says economy can expect challenges

By Fatima Hussein
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said Thursday the COVID-19 pandemic and Russia's invasion of Ukraine highlight the possibility of big economic shocks in the future, adding that downturns are "likely to continue to challenge the economy."

Her address at the Brookings Institution looked at lessons learned from economic downturns of the past and said countries need to build in "recession remedies" to protect people in the U.S. and globally going forward.

With "large negative shocks" inevitable, she said, policymakers have learned from the Great Recession that it's imperative to exit economic downturns "as quickly as possible."

"Countries will fare better if their economies are more resilient and less fragile," she said. "Improved understanding of breaks in supply chains, increases in commodity prices, bursting of asset bubbles, and labor and productivity shocks can help policymakers implement reforms that bolster our economic resilience."

The past several years have been marked by a pandemic that prompted trillions of dollars in federal stimulus aid, which economists say contributed to inflation levels at their highest points in four decades.

And now the war in Ukraine has had major impacts on global energy and food prices.

Yellen called for more permanent housing safety assistance for renters and homeowners and applauded recent improvements to the unemployment insurance system and stimulus payments, stressing the importance of "recovery policies that shorten ... recessions and mitigate economic pain."

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Justices uphold bias suit dismissal

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court on Thursday upheld the dismissal of a discrimination lawsuit filed by a deaf, legally blind woman against a physical therapy business that wouldn't provide an American Sign Language interpreter for her appointments.

In a 6-3 ruling with conservatives in the majority, Chief Justice John Roberts wrote that businesses that receive federal health care money can't be sued for discrimination under the Affordable Care Act when the harm alleged is emotional, not financial.

Justice Stephen Breyer wrote in dissent that people who suffer discrimination often feel humiliation or embarrassment. His opinion also noted that some anti-bias laws, including against workplace discrimination, allow for damages for emotional distress.

States sue USPS over gas vehicles

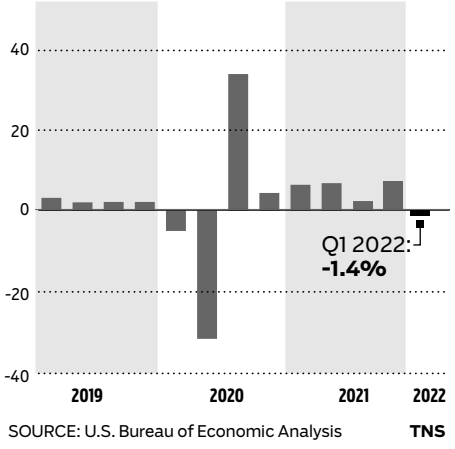
Three separate lawsuits, filed by 16 states, the District of Columbia and environmental groups Thursday in New York and California ask judges to order a more thorough environmental review before the U.S. Postal Service moves forward with the next-generation delivery vehicle program.

The plaintiffs contend that purchases of fossil fuel-powered delivery vehicles will cause environmental harm for decades to come and want the Postal Service to buy more electric delivery vehicles.

The Postal Service defended its actions "The Postal Service conducted a robust and thorough review and fully complied with all of our obligations under (the National Environmental Policy Act)," a spokesperson said Thursday.

GDP

Percent change from previous quarter, seasonally adjusted, advance estimate:



SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis **TNS**

BUSINESS

Inflation likely to cut into Stanley Black & Decker profit

By Stephen Singer
Hartford Courant

Stanley Black & Decker, hit by soaring commodity and transit costs, said Thursday it's scaling back its profit outlook for the year.

A divestiture of a business unit and the shutting of the New Britain tool maker's Russia business also were cited as reasons why the New Britain company expects a narrower bottom line this year.

Shares closed sharply lower, at $127.13, down 8.6%.

Stanley Black & Decker said it now expects adjusted per-share earnings for the year to be between $9.50 and $10.50, down from previous guidance of $12 to $12.50. Price increases are expected to reduce the impact of the highest inflation in 40 years.

"I'm very, very pleased actually with the ability to implement price and offset the inflation with price increases because historically we've never had this hyper inflation," Chief Executive Officer James Loree told industry analysts on a conference call reviewing first-quarter financial results.

He remains optimistic about the home repair business critical to Stanley Black & Decker sales. Despite slowing global growth and rising interest rates in the U.S., repair and remodeling are expected to grow due to an aging housing stock, tight housing supply and remodeling financed by rising home values, he said.

Stanley Black & Decker announced last week it was selling its automatic doors business, Access Technologies, to Allegion for $900 million in cash. The Access Technologies business, which patented the first hands-free door operator in 1931, generated about $340 million in revenue last year.

It's now recorded as a discontinued operation, contributing to the reduced profit estimates for the year. The sale is the final piece of the company's divestiture of its security business and is subject to regulatory approval. It's expected to close mid-year.

Stanley Black & Decker posted first-quarter revenue of $4.4 billion, up 20% over the same period last year that was due largely to acquisitions in outdoor power equipment business and higher prices to keep up with inflation. It fell short of Wall Street estimates of $4.59 billion, according to Zacks Investment Research.

Adjusted earnings per share of $2.10 beat analysts' estimate of $1.68.

Stephen Singer can be reached at ssinger@courant.com.

Musk's past tweets give clues about future owner of Twitter

By David Klepper
Associated Press

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Three days before Elon Musk agreed to buy Twitter, the world's richest man tweeted a photo of Bill Gates and used a crude term to make fun of his belly.

Playful, aggressive and often juvenile, Musk's past tweets show how he has used social media to craft his public image as a brash billionaire unafraid to offend.

They may also reveal clues as to how Musk will govern the platform he hopes to own.

"Look at the feed: It's all over the place. It's erratic. At times it's pretty extreme," said Jennifer Grygiel, a Syracuse University professor who studies social media and who recently assigned Musk's tweets as reading material for students. "It paints him as some sort of rebel leader who will take control of the public square to save it. That is a myth he has constructed."

Musk joined Twitter in 2010 and now has more than 85 million followers — the seventh most of any account and the highest for any business leader. He had mused about buying the site before he agreed on Monday to pay $44 billion for Twitter, which he said he hopes to turn into a haven where all speech is allowed.

"I hope that even my worst critics remain on Twitter, because that is what free speech means," Musk wrote in a tweet.

As the CEO of Tesla and SpaceX, Musk uses his Twitter account to make business announcements and promote his enterprises.

He muses about technology and trade, but has also posted jokes about women's breasts and once compared Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to Adolf Hitler. He regularly weighs in on global events, as he did in March 2020 when he tweeted that "The coronavirus pandemic is dumb."

He's also used the account to punch back at critics, such as when he called a diver working to rescue boys trapped in a cave in Thailand a "pedo," short for pedophile. The diver had previously criticized Musk's proposal to use a sub to rescue the boys. Musk, who won a defamation suit filed by the diver, later said he never intended "pedo" to be interpreted as "pedophile."

A few years ago, after software engineer Cher Scarlett criticized Musk's handling of the cave incident, the tech billionaire fired back and she was soon being harassed by dozens of Musk's online fans.

He later deleted the posts, but not before Scarlett had to lock down her account because she was receiving so many hateful messages.

"It's ironic to me that somebody who claims they want to buy Twitter to protect free speech has such thin skin," she said. "To me that's not championing free speech, it's weaponizing free speech, and I think that's what he'll do owning this platform."

Jack Sweeney got Musk's attention when he created an automated Twitter account that tracked the movements of Musk's jet. Musk responded by offering the 19-year-old Sweeney $5,000 to pull the account. When Sweeney refused, Musk blocked him on Twitter.

Sweeney said he's worried he may get kicked off the site entirely if Musk's takeover is approved.

But he said he likes Musk's free speech absolutism, and hopes he sees it through.

"He'll make it more open, and I think that's a good thing," Sweeney said.

Musk's use of Twitter has also led to problems for his own companies.

In one August 2018 tweet, for instance, Musk asserted that he had the funding to take Tesla private for $420 a share, although a court has ruled that it wasn't true. That led to an SEC investigation that Musk is still fighting.

More recently, Musk appeared to have violated SEC rules that required him to disclose that he'd acquired a 5% stake in Twitter; instead he waited until he had more than 9%.

Experts say these issues aren't likely to affect his Twitter acquisition.

Last year another federal agency, the National Labor Relations Board, ordered Musk to delete a tweet that officials said illegally threatened to cut stock options for Tesla employees who joined the United Auto Workers union.

Those tweets helped cement Musk's reputation as a brash outsider, a workingman's billionaire, Grygiel said. But that doesn't mean he is equipped to run a social media platform with more than 200 million users, the professor added.

"Maybe he wants to burn it down," Grygiel said. "I don't know. But I do know that it shows that no one person should have this kind of power."

Tweets by Tesla and SpaceX CEO Elon Musk have helped craft his public image. More than 85 million follow his account on the platform he's now poised to buy. **SCOTT OLSON/GETTY**

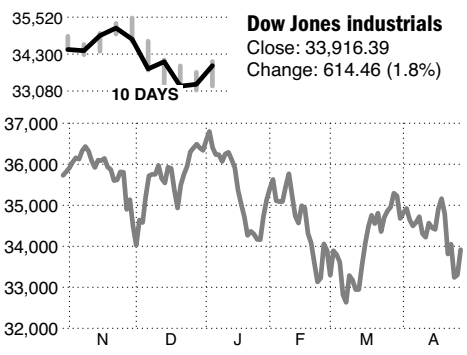
MARKET RUNDOWN

Friday, April 29, 2022

DOW 33,916.39 +614.46

10-YR T-BOND 2.85% +.04

GOLD $1,888.70 +2.90



Domestic Indexes

	CLOSE	CHG.	YTD
DOW Indus.	33,916.39	+614.46	-6.66%
DOW Trans.	15,324.13	+391.34	-7.00%
DOW Util.	1,030.72	+13.77	+5.09%
NYSE Comp.	16,032.68	+290.86	-6.59%
Nasdaq Comp.	12,871.53	+382.59	-17.73%
S&P 500	4,287.50	+103.54	-10.04%
S&P 400	2,570.11	+47.18	-9.57%
Wilshire 5000	42,878.28	+1,020.94	-11.52%
Russell 2000	1,917.94	+33.90	-14.58%

Commodities

FUELS	CLOSE	PREV.	YTD
Crude Oil (bbl)	105.36	102.02	+40.09%
Natural Gas (mm btu)	6.89	7.08	+84.66%
Unleaded Gas (gal)	3.50	3.46	+57.22%
METALS	**CLOSE**	**PREV.**	**YTD**
Gold (oz)	1,888.70	1,885.80	+3.35%
Silver (oz)	23.13	23.46	-.85%

(Previous and change figures reflect current contract.)

Foreign Exchange

	ForEx in U.S. $	U.S. $ in ForEx
Britain	1.2460	.8026
Canada	.7808	1.2807
China	.1509	6.6263
Euro	1.0504	.9520
Japan	.007639	130.91
Mexico	.048833	20.4780

Money Rates

	CLOSE	PREV. WK.
Prime rate	3.50	3.50
3-mo. T-Bill	0.82	0.83
6-mo. T-Bill	1.38	1.32
5-yr T-Note	2.86	2.96
10-yr T-Note	2.85	2.91
30-yr T-Bond	2.92	2.83

Global Markets

	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG.	%YTD
Frankfurt	13,979.84	+185.90	+1.35%	-11.99%
London	7,509.19	+83.58	+1.13%	+1.69%
Hong Kong	20,276.17	+329.81	+1.65%	-13.34%
Nikkei	26,847.90	+461.27	+1.75%	-6.75%

Stocks of Local Interest

STOCK (TICKER)	CLOSE	CHG.	YTD %CHG
AMC Entertainment A (AMC)	15.64	-.21	-42.5
AT&T Inc (T)	19.42	+.35	-21.1
Adv Micro Dev (AMD)	89.64	+4.73	-37.7
American Airlines Gp (AAL)	19.43	+.46	+8.2
Amphenol Corp (APH)	73.55	+3.39	-15.9
Annaly Capital Mgmt (NLY)	6.62	+.29	-15.3
Apple Inc (AAPL)	163.64	+7.07	-7.8
Arrival Corp (ARVL)	2.06	-.16	-72.2
Avangrid Inc (AGR)	45.29	-.13	-9.2
Bank of America (BAC)	36.81	+.56	-17.3
Barnes Group (B)	36.35	+.47	-22.0
BitNile Holdings Inc (NILE)	.41	+.01	-65.8
Booking Holdings (BKNG)	2317.80	+58.85	-3.4
Borqs Technologies (BRQS)	.35	-.03	-6.2
Brist Myr Sqb (BMY)	77.20	+1.39	+23.8
CVS Health Corp (CVS)	100.85	...	-2.2
Carnival Corp (CCL)	17.83	+.42	-11.4
Carrier Global Corp (CARR)	39.41	-.70	-27.3
Charter Communic (CHTR)	461.49	-20.52	-29.2
Cigna Corp (CI)	254.24	+3.47	+10.7
Hutao Technology Co (CSCW)	.18	+.05	-64.2
Comcast Corp A (CMCSA)	41.70	-2.75	-17.1
Cyngn Inc (CYN)	3.93	-.04	-12.7
Disney (DIS)	115.29	+.08	-25.6
EMCOR Group Inc (EME)	105.39	-6.56	-17.3
Ethan Allen (ETD)	26.96	+.30	+2.5
Eversource Energy (ES)	90.20	+.69	-.9
Exela Technologies (XELA)	.34	+.02	-61.0
Exxon Mobil Corp (XOM)	87.20	+2.56	+42.5
Ford Motor (F)	14.62	-.23	-29.6
FuelCell Energy (FCEL)	4.22	+.01	-18.8
Gen Dynamics (GD)	241.20	+1.22	+15.7
Gen Electric (GE)	77.73	-.48	-17.7
Hartford Fn Sv (HIG)	71.27	+1.28	+3.2
Honeywell Intl (HON)	189.92	+3.57	-8.9
Horizon Tech Fin (HRZN)	13.12	+.15	-17.6
Infosys Ltd (INFY)	20.50	+.38	-19.0
Intel Corp (INTC)	46.84	+1.62	-9.0
Kaman (KAMN)	40.67	+.75	-5.7
Keycorp (KEY)	20.03	+.17	-13.4
Lincoln Natl Corp (LNC)	62.71	+1.06	-8.1
M&T Bank (MTB)	171.31	+.06	+11.5
MGM Resorts Intl (MGM)	42.11	+1.77	-6.2
Meta Platforms Inc (FB)	205.73	+30.78	-38.8
MetLife Inc (MET)	67.77	+.87	+8.4
Microsoft Corp (MSFT)	289.63	+6.41	-13.9
Mullen Automotive (MULN)	1.36	+.01	-74.0
Novartis AG (NVS)	90.22	+.81	+3.1
Nvidia Corporation (NVDA)	197.82	+13.67	-32.7
Otis Worldwide Corp (OTIS)	76.07	+2.50	-12.6
Palantir Technol (PLTR)	10.95	+.39	-39.9
PayPal Holdings (PYPL)	92.09	+9.48	-51.2
Peabody Energy Corp (BTU)	24.50	-2.00	+143.3
Pfizer Inc (PFE)	50.51	+.77	-14.5
Pinterest Inc (PINS)	21.20	+2.53	-41.7
Pitney Bowes (PBI)	5.32	+1.01	-19.8
Prudential Fncl (PRU)	112.12	+1.33	+3.6
Pub Svc Ent Gp (PEG)	71.15	+.70	+6.6
Qualcomm Inc (QCOM)	148.19	+13.09	-19.0
Raytheon Technolog (RTX)	98.08	-.76	+14.0
Rogers Corp (ROG)	272.50	-.10	-.2
SS&C Technlogies (SSNC)	69.04	+1.11	-15.8
Sirius XM Hldgs Inc (SIRI)	6.31	+.34	-.6
Snap Inc A (SNAP)	28.81	+1.72	-38.7
SoFi Technologies (SOFI)	6.45	+.30	-59.2
Sthwstn Energy (SWN)	7.37	...	+58.2
Stanley Black & Deck (SWK)	127.13	-12.01	-32.6
Starwood Prop Trust (STWD)	23.59	+.41	-2.9
Sundial Growers Inc (SNDL)	.51	-.02	-12.3
Swvi Holdings Corp A (SWVL)	10.09	+3.37	+.9
Teladoc Inc (TDOC)	33.51	-22.48	-63.5
Terex Corp (TEX)	34.50	+.28	-21.5
Tesla Inc (TSLA)	877.51	-4.00	-17.0
Travelers Cos (TRV)	174.50	+.95	+11.6
Twitter Inc (TWTR)	49.11	+.47	+13.6
Uber Technologies (UBER)	32.82	+2.14	-21.7
United Rentals (URI)	318.50	+8.88	-4.1
UnitedHealth Group (UNH)	524.42	+10.61	+4.4
VICI Properties (VICI)	30.64	+1.07	+1.8
Verizon Comm (VZ)	48.40	-.06	-6.9
Virtus Invest (VRTS)	184.00	+3.07	-38.1
Voya Financial (VOYA)	65.16	+.78	-1.7
Webster Financial (WBS)	51.24	+2.57	-8.2
White Mtns Insur (WTM)	1071.93	+23.02	+5.7
World Wrestling Ent (WWE)	60.65	+1.06	+22.9
XPO Logistics Inc (XPO)	56.05	+3.35	-27.6
Xerox Holdings Corp (XRX)	17.53	+.46	-22.6

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HIC-0646137

Helen Bennett
Executive Editor
hbennett@courant.com

OPINION

Right faces a perplexing situation

Ross Douthat

In 2011, when Elizabeth Warren was preparing to run for the U.S. Senate, she had a long riff making the case against a certain kind of idealized Ayn-Randian vision of the lonely heroic capitalist.

In a video that went viral, she told an audience: "There is nobody in this country who got rich on his own — nobody. You built a factory out there? Good for you. But I want to be clear. You moved your goods to market on the roads the rest of us paid for. You hired workers the rest of us paid to educate. You were safe in your factory because of police forces and fire forces that the rest of us paid for." She praised her hypothetical wealthy business owner: "Now look, you built a factory and it turned into something terrific, or a great idea, God bless." But she argued that they owed the system something in return — which in her vision meant a higher tax rate.

This was later echoed by Barack Obama in his phrase "You didn't build that" — which, note well, Warren did not originally say — which in turn gave birth to "You built that!" as an important theme of Mitt Romney's ill-fated pro-entrepreneurship presidential candidacy. In that Romney-Obama argument, the divide between the parties seemed consistent, familiar: You turned to the Democrats for versions of Warren's case that no successful business was built without some kind of state support and to the Republicans for a more heroic, rugged-individualist view of corporate America's success.

Nothing has been quite so consistent since. The Republican Party in the Trump era remained a mostly pro-business party in its policies, but its constituencies and rhetoric have tilted more working class and populist, with many Romney Republicans drifting into the Democratic coalition. Meanwhile, the Democratic Party remains generally the party of regulation and higher taxation, but much of corporate America has swung culturally into liberalism's camp. That process was well underway a decade ago, but it's been accelerated by anti-Trump backlash, the more left-leaning commitments of big business's younger customers and (especially) younger employees, and the relative ease with which the radical-sounding language of identity politics can be assimilated to corporate management techniques.

As a consequence, today's GOP is most clearly now the party of *local* capitalism — what leftists like to call "patrimonial capitalism" — while its relationship with corporate America is increasingly complex.

Much of the party elite wish to continue doing business with big business as before. But the party's base regards corporate institutions — especially in Silicon Valley, but extending to more traditional capitalist powers — as cultural enemies, with too much consolidated power and too much interest in pressuring, censoring and propagandizing against socially conservative views and policy.

This tension on the right has produced a little policy innovation — a sudden right-wing interest in trustbusting, some vaguely union-friendly forays — and a lot of incoherence. But in the last week we've seen two sharper conservative answers to the question: What does the right do when big business turns against conservatism?

One answer is the Elon Musk solution: You wait for a libertarian billionaire to buy one of the companies whose mix of influence and censorship you fear. You hope that he will overrule its largely progressive staff and make its moderation rules more favorable to right-wing content, or at least less likely to censor uncomfortable stories about, say, the son of a Democratic presidential candidate. And you take the arguments liberals were making about social-media moderation policies just yesterday — *if you don't like it, go build your own social network, losers* — and hurl them back in their smug faces.

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis is locked in a battle with The Walt Disney Company. **ELLEN SCHMIDT/LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL**

Suffice it to say that Musk would have to do a *lot* to make his kind of billionaire-savior model a real answer to conservatism's general alienation from big business.

Which brings us to the second answer, the Ron DeSantis solution, manifest in the Florida governor's recent war with Disney. You tell corporations that if they decide (or find themselves internally pressured) to become active on the liberal side of the culture wars, they may find their special deals and corporate carve-outs suddenly threatened or revoked.

From one perspective, this is no more scalable than the Musk solution, because a move as direct as DeSantis' is quite possibly unconstitutional. And the Florida governor himself may expect to have his move swatted down in the courts, to reap political benefits without having to actually deal with the fallout of what, frankly, seems like a pretty poorly thought-out policy shift.

But there is a conservative case for the principle of what he's doing — a case that while the government can't single you out for special *disfavor* for your political speech, what is being withdrawn in Disney's case is special favor, linked to the bipartisan and indeed above-partisanship position that the House of Mouse has long enjoyed in Florida.

Interestingly, this argument feels like a reworking, from the cultural right, of Warren's argument from a decade back. She argued that nobody builds a business alone, and now conservatives are embracing a variation of that case — not to justify progressive taxation, but to suggest that if your business or institution accepts special government favors, then the public becomes a stakeholder in your success, and it has the right to withdraw that special treatment if you then become a partisan or ideological actor.

"Almost every institution the left controls and has weaponized in the culture wars," conservative writer and editor Ben Domenech argued recently, "was created by and depends upon special, favorable treatment — even funding — from all Americans."

This is true of public entities, public schools and universities, the locus of so much controversy right now, but it's also true of the internet behemoths, beneficiaries of a regulatory system that largely immunized them from content responsibility (via the famous Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act). Or the Wall Street firms bailed out in 2008. Or the sports leagues that rely on antitrust exemptions and stadium subsidies. Or Disney.

All these institutions enjoy First Amendment protections from being discriminated *against*, this line of argument suggests. But forms of discrimination that work in their favor — meaning all their privileges, immunities and tax breaks — are political fair game if they enter culture wars.

"U.S. economic policy is not neutral toward business in any kind of pure, Adam Smithian sense," Domenech writes, "but a gigantic, convoluted network of special treatment for special interests. So, when elites who run such special interests launch a smug, moral crusade against the same American people who have showered them with special treatment ... that abused, insulted public is well within its rights to withdraw some of its munificence."

I don't know if this argument is constitutionally convincing when applied to something as crudely retaliatory-seeming as the DeSantis move. But it's convincing at some level of distance.

When the Trump administration pushed through a tax on endowment income for wealthy colleges and universities, that was clearly not just disinterested policy; the goal was to reduce the special treatment offered to these institutions precisely because they have grown increasingly radicalized against conservatism in recent years. It was a political act, a punitive one, a version of what Domenech is describing: *You take tax dollars from conservatives as well as liberals, so you can't complain when the right notices you don't seem to hire any conservative faculty and decides to take some of those tax dollars back*. And while there were claims that this intention made the measure unconstitutional, few legal figures seemed to take them seriously.

Likewise, if the inchoate right-left alliance against Big Tech ever brought trustbusting legislation to fruition, that legislation would be clearly motivated, in some sense, by a conservative desire to punish the big tech companies for certain high-profile transgressions. But it seems pretty unlikely that these motives — mixed together with others, of course — would be grounds for the courts to block, say, a Facebook breakup or a Section 230 repeal.

So while the specific details of the Disney gambit may not be upheld or replicated, the idea behind it is likely to live on, shaping conservative ambitions at the state and federal level alike. (Especially since, as we saw with the Chick-fil-A wars, liberals are ready to engage in the same tactics when the opportunity presents itself.)

Most likely, given the chaotic nature of conservatism at the moment, these anti-corporate gambits will be tactical more often than strategic, symbolic more often than transformative, and quite often just showy gestures to the party's business-skeptical base that leave cozy relationships intact behind the scenes.

But it's still a striking evolution, that the right that once disdained an "actually, we *all* built that" account of business success is now inclined to adopt its own version of that. And while I don't expect Warren to claim any kind of vindication, it's proof that ideas can circulate and reappear sometimes in the last place that you'd expect.

Douthat is a columnist for The New York Times.

Blame Washington, not Putin, for rising prices

By EJ Antoni
The Heritage Foundation

How out of control is inflation? One measure says it all: Prices are now rising as fast in one month as they used to rise in a whole year when President Joe Biden took office.

The measure of inflation that gets the most attention is the consumer price index, which estimates the prices consumers are paying for a typical combination of goods and services. The CPI rose 8.5 percent in the 12 months from March 2021 to March of this year — the fastest increase in four decades.

The administration, seeking to salvage plummeting poll numbers, dubbed this "Putin's price hike." But there is considerable evidence that prices in March were going to be elevated, regardless of the war in Ukraine — 86 percent of the increase in the CPI occurred before the conflict began.

Furthermore, if the existing trend in the CPI over previous months had continued, prices still would have seen a large increase in March. Including that anticipated increase, more than 95 percent of the rise in consumer prices under Biden has nothing to do with the war in Europe.

The highest consumer price increases in decades have been baked in for months. That's because of previous price increases for businesses, known as wholesale inflation, which are eventually passed along to consumers.

If prices were to increase for a single business owner, it would be relatively difficult to pass those cost increases on to his consumers, and the owner may face operating at a continuing loss. But because inflation causes the costs for every business to increase, prices can be raised without losing customers to competitors, as no competitor is able to keep costs down without sacrificing the quality or quantity of their offerings.

When consumers face higher costs, their only options are to pay more (often for less) or cut back consumption overall.

Wholesale inflation, as measured by the producer price index, was growing at a 1.6 percent annual rate when Biden was inaugurated. It did not take long for this administration to spend trillions of newly printed dollars, courtesy of the Federal Reserve. That fired up inflationary pressures, and the PPI quickly became red-hot.

For each of the last 12 months, the PPI has set a new record high, reaching 11.2 percent in March.

Additionally, the PPI has risen faster than the CPI for every month of Biden's presidency. That is further indication of continued price increases at the consumer level in the months to come as wholesale inflation is passed down to retail prices.

Those who were aware of the rise in wholesale inflation before March were already anticipating high inflation for consumers. The idea that these price increases suddenly arrived like a Russian artillery shell does not stand up to the data.

The Heritage Foundation says that President Biden's energy policies are helping drive inflation higher. Above, cars at a gas station April 13 in Delray Beach, Florida. **MARTA LAVANDIER/AP**

While profligate spending of borrowed money by Washington has certainly juiced inflation, the Biden administration's energy policies have proven particularly harmful. For over a year, the president has done everything in his power to hamstring American oil, coal and natural gas production. That dovetails perfectly with his campaign promise to force people into adopting unreliable energy sources that fit his "climate" agenda, the benefits of which are unproven.

From canceling pipelines, new drilling permits and leases, to pressuring financial institutions into abandoning financing American fossil fuels, Biden has created a recipe for less American energy and higher energy prices, particularly for diesel fuel. In most parts of the country, it now costs over $1,200 to fill up a semi-truck—twice as much as when Biden was inaugurated. The truck driver passes that cost on to whomever he delivers what he's transporting. Ultimately, the consumer foots the bill.

It is no coincidence that producer and then consumer prices, especially for energy, began escalating after Biden became president and long before the war in Ukraine. Restricting the supply of reliable energy and forcing the implementation of expensive "green" alternatives has driven up prices in both the PPI and CPI.

It was Washington that planted this tree, and now it is bearing rotten fruit.

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Tag Sales & Flea Markets

GLASTONBURY - Estate Sale (contents of several) 50 Springside Trail. Sat Apr 30th, 9am-12pm. Antiques, old tools, collectibles, oddities, much more! No early birds.

GLASTONBURY - Neighborhood Tag & Moving Sale on Lenox Dr. Sat April 30th, 8am-2pm. Lots of great stuff!

ROCKY HILL - Tag Sale. 22 Hawthorne Cir. Saturday 4/30, 8am-1pm.

WEST HARTFORD - Multi-family Tag Sale, Saturday April 30th 9-2. Furniture, Toys, Sport Equipment, Rugs, Household items. 64 Avondale Road.

WINDSOR - PILGRIM DRIVE - Multi-Family Tag Sale - Saturday, April 30, 9AM-1PM Kitchen items, household decor, clothing, electronics, garden tools, furniture and so much more! Take 91N to Exit 39, right onto Kennedy Rd, left onto Mayflower Dr, right onto Pilgrim Dr.

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Announcements

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CADILLAC DTS 2006 - $6,699 Dark blue, 102k miles. Call Norm 860-416-2766

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Hartford

Notice of Tentative Determination to Approve Structures, Dredging & Fill And Intent to Waive Public Hearing Applicant: SHM Dauntless, LLC Application No. 202103934-SDF City/Town: Essex

The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection ("DEEP") hereby gives notice that a tentative determination has been reached to approve the following application submitted under Section 22a-361 of the Connecticut General Statutes ("CGS") for a permit to conduct work waterward of the coastal jurisdiction line in tidal, coastal or navigable waters of the state for marine commercial use.

The Commissioner also gives notice that a hearing may be held on this application if a written request via electronic mail as specified below is received from the applicant, or if the Commissioner determines that the public interest will best be served thereby. The Commissioner shall also hold a hearing pursuant to CGS Section 22a-361(b) on receipt of a petition signed by twenty-five or more persons.

Applicant's Name and Address: SHM Dauntless, LLC, 37 Pratt Street, Essex, CT 06426

Contact: John Lust, johnblustjr@gmail.com, (203) 988-4665

Site Location: 11 Ferry Street, Essex

PROPOSED ACTIVITY
The proposed activity includes expansion of A, D, and E docks, retention and in-kind, in-place replacement of an existing bulkhead, and establishment of marina boundary and will affect coastal resources.

INFORMATION REQUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENT
Interested persons may obtain a copy of the application from the above contacts or by sending a request for an electronic copy to DEEP at Farrah.Ashe@ct.gov. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 emergency, the DEEP office located at 79 Elm Street, Hartford, is closed to the public until further notice. All interested parties are invited to express their views on the tentative determination concerning this application. Comments regarding this application may be submitted via electronic mail to Farrah.Ashe@ct.gov no later than thirty (30) days from the publication date of this notice.

PETITIONS FOR HEARING
Petitions for a hearing shall be submitted within thirty (30) days from the date of publication of this public notice and should include the application number(s) noted above and also identify a contact person to receive notifications. Petitions should also identify a person who is authorized to engage in discussions regarding the application and, if resolution is reached, withdraw the petition. In order to facilitate the filing of requests for hearing during the COVID-19 emergency and consistent with the DEEP's Temporary Directive, the Office of Adjudications will accept electronically-filed petitions in addition to petitions submitted by mail. Petitions with required signatures may be filed by email to deep.adjudications@ct.gov or mailed to the DEEP Office of Adjudications, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106. Within thirty (30) days of their filing, original petitions that were filed electronically must also be mailed to the Office at the above-noted address. If the original petition exists only in electronic format or signatures were produced using a computer or typewriter, the petition must be submitted with a statement bearing the wet-ink signature of the petitioner that the petition is only available in that format and has been submitted to satisfy the requirement that an original petition be filed. If a hearing is held, timely notice of such hearing will be published in a newspaper of general circulation and posted on the DEEP website at www.ct.gov/deep. Additional information can be found at www.ct.gov/deep/adjudications.

Publication Date: April 29, 2022

Approved By: Brian P. Thompson, Director
Land & Water Resources Division
Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse

ADA PUBLICATION STATEMENT
DEEP is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer that is committed to complying with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please contact Farrah.Ashe@ct.gov if you are seeking a communication aid or service, have limited proficiency in English, or require some other accommodation. If you wish to file an ADA or Title VI discrimination complaint, you may submit your complaint to DEEP Office of Diversity and Equity at 860-418-5910 or deep.accommodations@ct.gov. In order to facilitate efforts to provide an accommodation, please request all accommodations as soon as possible following notice of any agency hearing, meeting, program or event.
4/29/22 7200830

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: The following self-storage unit contents containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart, 1501 Route 12 Gales Ferry CT 06335 to satisfy a lien on May 12th 2022 at approx. 1:30 PM at www.storagetreasures.com:
Cube- 209 - Robert Jacobowitz
Cube- 256 - Rebecca Leonard
Cube- 420 -Thomas Demauro 3rd
Cube- 1139 -Tabasia Shaw
4/28 & 4/29/22 7196212

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated:
643 Farmington Ave.
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5/11/2022 at 1:00 PM
Unit 407
Marivelisse Amparo
Mattress, boxes clothes
Unit 611
Jose Lopez
furniture and household goods.
Unit 692
Damarys Gonzolez-rivera
Furniture.
The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storagetreasures.com Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.
4/29 & 5/6/22 7200781

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PROPERTY AUCTION

The Town of Plainville auctioned the following properties in Plainville to satisfy delinquent taxes and charges on April 19, 2022:

60 Franklin Avenue owned by Nils A. Anderson, Jr. a/k/a Nils Anderson, Jr. or his Estate was sold to Karan Garewal and Pratibha Garewal of 6 Brentwood Court, Mt. Kisco, NY 10549 for $117,000.00.

26 Johnson Avenue and 0 Johnson Avenue owned by Andrew Caron was sold to KG Holdings, LLC of PO. Box 246, Plainville, CT 06062 for $73,000.00.

4 Robioux Road owned by Daniel J. Coleman was sold to Karan Garewal and Pratibha Garewal of 6 Brentwood Court, Mt. Kisco, NY 10549 for $153,000.00.

38 Summer Street owned by Dino Faiazza was sold to Karan Garewal and Pratibha Garewal of 6 Brentwood Court, Mt. Kisco, NY 10549 for $94,000.00.

36 Cody Avenue owned by the Estate of Barbara J. Gorski was sold to Roman Egorov of 89 Pebblebrook Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067 for $129,000.00.

7 Schenone Court owned by Michael A. Johnson was sold to Corrthen 401k Trust of 13 Driftway Point Road, Danbury CT 06811 and BM Investments Trust of 32 Brookfield Meadows, Brookfield CT 06804 for $160,000.00.

7 Farmhill Drive owned by Louis G. Labonte or his Estate and Leone Labonte or her Estate was sold to Abdelkader Hassan of 153 Freeman Street, Hartford CT 06114 for $158,000.00.

5 Elm Court owned by Theodore Poulos or his Estate and Elaine Poulos was sold to Karan Garewal and Pratibha Garewal of 6 Brentwood Court, Mt. Kisco, NY 10549 for $77,000.00.

9 Lena Avenue owned by Earl C. Root, III and Susan B. Root was sold to NFT Vault LLC of 34 Main Street, East Haddam CT 06423 for $400,000.00.

71 Russell Avenue Unit A8 owned by Russellgate Condominium Association, Inc. was sold to Lucyna Sztachelski and Wojtek Sztachelski of 61 Angela's Way, Burlington CT 06013 for $56,000.00.

371 Long Swamp Road owned by Sandra Threlkeld was sold to Michael P. Boiczyk of 18 Green Woods Lane, Unionville CT 06085 for $62,000.00.

11 Elm Court owned by Frances Trangata or Estate was sold to Karan Garewal and Pratibha Garewal of 6 Brentwood Court, Mt. Kisco, NY 10549 for $111,000.00.

3 Seneca Road owned by Peter G. Wijas was sold to Karan Garewal and Pratibha Garewal of 6 Brentwood Court, Mt. Kisco, NY 10549 for $190,000.00.

The redemption period expires on October 18, 2022. If redemption does not take place by the date stated and in the manner provided by law, the delinquent taxpayers, and all mortgagees, lienholders and other encumbrancers who have received actual or constructive notice of such sale as provided by law, are hereby notified that their respective titles, mortgages, liens, restraints on alienation and other encumbrances in such properties shall be extinguished.
4/29/22 7201670

Connecticut

Dish Wireless LLC is proposing to install new wireless telecommunications antennas on an existing self supporting lattice tower located at 82 North Eagleville Road, Mansfield, Tolland Co., CT 06268. The new facility will consist of the collocation of antennas at 180 feet above ground level (measured to RAD center of the antennas) on the 259-foot-tall tower (measured to top of lightening rod). Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending such comments to: Project 6122003838 - TC EBI Consulting, 21 B Street, Burlington, MA 01803, or via telephone at (339) 234-2597.
4/29/2022 7201629

Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Designated Agent Approval Town of West Hartford

34 Midlands Drive, West Hartford (IWW #188)-Application of Central Sealing requesting approval for a driveway expansion of 475 SF. The application was approved administratively by the Town Planner, acting as designated agent for the IWWA, on 4/27/22. The application and related material for the above item are available for public review in the Town Plan and Zoning Office, Room 214, Town Hall, 50 South Main Street, West Hartford, CT 06107.
4/29/2022 7201453

Notice of Application to Establish a Branch

Manufacturers and Traders Trust Company, whose principal office is located at One M&T Plaza, City of Buffalo, Erie County, New York 14203, intends to apply to the Federal Reserve Board for permission to establish a branch at 957 Main Street, East Hartford, Hartford County, CT 06108. The Federal Reserve considers a number of factors in deciding whether to approve the application, including the record of performance of applicant banks in helping to meet local credit needs.
You are invited to submit comments in writing on this application to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Attention: Bank Applications Officer, 33 Liberty Street, New York, New York 10045, or via email: comments.applications@ny.frb.org. The comment period will not end before Friday May 20, 2022. The Board's procedures for processing applications may be found at 12 C.F.R. Part 262. Procedures for processing protested applications may be found at 12 C.F.R. 262.25. If you need more information about how to submit your comments on community affairs aspects of the application or to obtain copies of relevant procedures, contact Ms. Claire Kramer, Community Affairs, (212) 720-5371; other questions, including those relating to general procedures, should be directed to Mr. Ivan J. Hurwitz, Vice President, Bank Applications Function, (212) 720-5885. The Federal Reserve will consider your comments and any request for a public meeting or formal hearing on the application if they are received in writing by the Reserve Bank on or before the last day of the comment period.
4/29/2022 7191417

2022 REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR ON-CALL ENGINEERING SERVICES

The Town of South Windsor will be accepting statements of Qualifications from qualified individuals or firms to provide engineering consulting services for the Town on an as-needed basis at the Public Works Department, Town Hall, 1540 Sullivan Avenue, South Windsor, Connecticut until 4:00 p.m., Prevailing Local Time, June 1, 2022.
In general the basic scope of services includes but is not limited to providing engineering site assessments, consultation and design plans for the Pollution Control, and/or Engineering, and Streets divisions of the Public Works Department.
Copies of the Request for Qualifications may be obtained from the Town of South Windsor's website: https://www.southwindsor-ct.gov/bids.
The Town of South Windsor, Connecticut reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted in response to this Request for Qualifications. The Town reserves the right to waive any informality, defect or irregularity in any or all Proposals if such action is in the best interests of the Town.
Michael Maniscalco, MPA
Town Manager
4/29/2022 7200040

The City of Hartford Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 6 p.m. to hear the following public hearing items:
a. 225 Asylum St – Request for Special Permit for proposed signage at 225 Asylum Street, located in the DT-2 Downtown district, pursuant to Section 8.1.3.E and Section 8.8 of the City of Hartford Zoning Regulations. Owner: 225 Goodwin LLC; Applicant: Sign Pro Inc. c/o Tracy Becker.
Meeting information and documents are available online:
https://www.meetinginfo.org/meetings/1730. Documents are available for inspection by appointment at 260 Constitution Plaza, Hartford, CT 06103.
4/29, 5/6/2022 7201651

NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WILLIAMSVILLE FIRE ENGINE DISTRICT MAY 12, 2022, 6:30 PM

The inhabitants of the Williamsville Fire Engine District who are legally entitled to vote are hereby warned to meet at the Williamsville Fire Engine District House, 126 State Avenue, Rogers, Connecticut, on Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 6:30 P.M., for the following reasons:
1. To vote to adopt the budget of expenses for the fiscal year 2022-2023 in the amount of $168,013.00 as prepared by the Board of Directors and make the necessary appropriations.
2. To vote to lay the tax and fix the tax rate sufficient to meet the requirements of the District for running expenses.
3. To act upon the proposal that motor vehicles shall be exempt from any tax levied by the District, in accordance with Section 7-328b of the Connecticut General Statutes.
4. To act upon the proposal that the District will waive any tax due in an amount less than one ($1.00) dollar in accordance with Section 12-144c of the Connecticut General Statutes.
5. To elect a Treasurer / Tax Collector and two directors to three year terms.
6. To transact any other business proper to come before such meeting.
Robert C. Hire, President, Williamsville Fire Engine District
Dated at Killingly, Connecticut this 29th day of April, 2022
4/29/2022 7201956

Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court Providence, SC PETITION TO FORECLOSE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION PM NO. 2021-07777

TO ALL, WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, and to ESTATE OF SOUHAIL S. EL-KHOURY Alias SOUHAIL S. KHOURY, Lina Elkhoury, Jacob S. Elkhoury, and Elie S. Elkhoury, Heirs UWD 4/9/15, BRISTOL COUNTY SAVINGS BANK, SII to FREEDOM NATIONAL BANK, IRVING OIL TERMINALS, INC., PORTFOLIO RECOVERY ASSOCIATES, LLC, TD BANK USA, NA SII to TARGET NATIONAL BANK, UNIFUND CCR, LLC, TOWN OF SMITHFIELD, FIA CARD SERVICES, DISCOVER BANK, RI DIV. OF TAXATION.
Whereas, a petition has been presented to said Court by Richard W. Nicholson, Esq., c/o Richard
W. Nicholson, Esq., 9 Thurber Blvd., Suite D, Smithfield, RI 02917, and/or rich@rilawcpa.com, in the County of Providence and said State, to foreclose all rights of redemption from the tax lien proceedings described in said petition in and concerning a certain parcel of land situated in the County of Providence and in said State, bounded and described in said petition as follows:
That certain lot or parcel of land with all the buildings and improvements thereon situated at 676 Putnam Pike, in the Town of Smithfield, County of Providence, State of Rhode Island laid out and designated as Lot 7 on Assessor's Plat 4.
If you desire to make any objection or defense to said petition you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer, under oath, setting forth clearly and specifically your objection or defense to each part of said petition, in the office of the Superior Court in Providence on or before the 20th day following the day of receipt of this Citation, that you may then and there show cause, if any, why the prayer of the petition should not be granted.
Unless your appearance is filed by or for you, your default will be recorded, the said petition will be taken as confessed and you will be forever barred from contesting said petition or any decree entered thereon.
And in addition to the usual service of this notice as required by law, it is ordered that the foregoing citation be published once each week for three (3) successive weeks in the Providence Journal a newspaper published in State of Rhode Island and the Hartford Courant, a newspaper published in the State of Connecticut.
WITNESS, the Seal of our SUPERIOR COURT at Providence this 28th day of - March, 2022.
/s/ Stephen Burke, Clerk
4/15, 4/22, 4/29/2022 7186506

NOTICE

The City of Hartford Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Virtual Regular Meeting on Tuesday, May 3, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. to hear the following public hearing items:
a. 675 Wethersfield Ave – Request for Variances from Section 4.20.4.F – Fuel Pumps & Canopies, to allow for three new fuel pumps in the front yard, and from Section 6.7.3 – Street Trees, to allow smaller shrubs where street trees are required. Owner: K Brothers, LLC; Applicant: Alfred Benesch & Company c/o John Oliveto.
b. 145 New Britain Ave – Request for Variances from Section 4.20.4.F – Fuel Pumps & Canopies, to allow for three new fuel pumps in the front yard, and from Section 6.7.3 – Street Trees, to allow for four (4) street trees and smaller shrubs where eight (8) street trees are required. Owner: K Brothers, LLC; Applicant: Alfred Benesch & Company c/o John Oliveto.
c. 923 Maple Ave – Request for Variance from Section 4.20.4.F – Fuel Pumps & Canopies, to allow for four new fuel pumps in the front yard. Owner: A Broad Street, LLC; Applicant: John B. Kennelly.
d. 246 Barbour Street – Request for a Use Variance from Figure 3.2-A of the Zoning Regulations to allow an Automobile Repair/Car Wash use, as defined in Section 3.3.5.E, in the MS-2 Main Street district. Owner: BP General Services, LLC. Applicant: Sandra Palmer, on behalf of BP General Services, LLC. Anticipated Public Hearing Date: May 3, 2022.
Meeting information and documents are available online:
https://www.meetinginfo.org/meetings/1714. Documents are available for inspection by appointment at 260 Constitution Plaza, Hartford, CT 06103.
4/22, 4/29/2022 7195773

Legal Notice — Town of Wethersfield, Connecticut NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE FOR TAXES

Pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. 12-157, notice is provided that on April 21, 2022 the following real properties were sold at public auction to the successful high bidder as follows: Property on South Meadow Road: Sold to Whit Osgood/Great Meadows Conservation Trust Inc PO 171 Glastonbury CT 06033 for the purchase price of $4062.58; and 12 Briar Lane: Sold to Northstar One, L.L.C. with an address at PO. Box 207, Southbury, CT 06488 for the purchase price of $212,000.00.
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that if redemption does not occur in the time and manner provided by law, by Monday, October 24, 2022, the interest in the above property of any delinquent taxpayer, and each mortgagee, lienholder, or any other encumbrancer who has received actual or constructive notice of such sale as provided by law, shall be extinguished.
Dated at Wethersfield, CT this 26th day of April 2022.
/s/ Marlene Desjardins, Tax Collector of Wethersfield
4/29/2022 7201731

Request For Proposal #04-2202

The State of Connecticut Judicial Branch, Court Support Services Division (JB-CSSD) is soliciting proposals from qualified organizations to perform technical support services in application development and for rich/smart client, client/server, and web-based applications.

Proposals must be received before 2:30 p.m. on Monday, May 23, 2022. Late proposals will NOT be accepted.

RESPONDENTS CURRENTLY REGISTERED UNDER THE STATE'S SMALL BUSINESS SET-ASIDE PROGRAM ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.

Proposal package may be obtained by accessing the Judicial Branch, Purchasing Services web site below.

www.jud.ct.gov/external/news/busopp/

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4/29/2022 7201836

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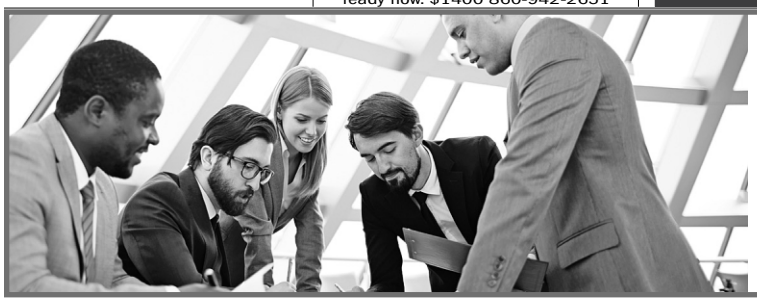
LABRADOR RETRIEVERS AKC, Color white, M & F, Shots, Vet Checked, Dewormed, Happy Healthy Babies 11wks Ready Now $2000 Call For More Info 860-712-5925

SEVERAL BREEDS OF PUPPIES @ www.hiddenhillshomestead.org

WESTYPOO PUPS All shots, vetted, ready now. $1400 860-942-2651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OBITUARIES BY TOWN

Bristol
Josephy J. Brophy
John A. Rizzi, II
East Hartford
Anna J. Bilodeau
Farmington
Josephy J. Brophy
Kathleen M. Livingston
Glastonbury
Warren W. Lutz
Joseph J. Saponaro
James E. Schulz
Granby
Kathleen M. Livingston
Old Saybrook
Ethel Diaz
Other Towns in CT
Joseph Casso
Neil Eric Hansen
Janet Robinson
Joseph J. Saponaro
Out of State
Neil Eric Hansen
George A. Washburn
Portland
Raymond F. Benedetto
Simsbury
Warren W. Lutz
Waterbury
Ethel Diaz
West Hartford
Raymond F. Benedetto
James E. Schulz
Windsor
Anthony J. Defranzo, Sr.
Mary Lepage

*** Denotes name listing only.**
Please note: not all death notices are in alphabetical order.

OBITUARIES

Benedetto, Raymond F.

Raymond "Ray" Benedetto passed away peacefully after a brief illness on Monday April 25, 2022. He was born in Hartford on October 28, 1937, the son of the late Joseph and Antoinette Benedetto. He was the beloved husband of Dolores "Dee" (DiManno) Benedetto for 61 years; they lived and raised their family in Rocky Hill for over 40 years before moving to Portland in 2005. Ray was the owner of the Silas Deane Supermarket in the 1970's, and was further employed by Better Brands, Aetna Insurance, and Price Waterhouse. He was a long-time member of St. James/St. Josephine Bakhita Parish of Rocky Hill, where he was a Eucharistic Minister and Sextant. In his spare time, Ray loved to watch UCONN women's basketball, the Red Sox and Patriots, and complete his model ships and puzzles. He loved his Sunday pasta dinners with the family, and of course making sausage with his brothers were the days he cherished the most. He is survived by his wife Dee; his children, Thomas Benedetto of Rocky Hill, Mark Benedetto and his wife Lois of West Hartford and Darlene Crickmore and her husband Kevin of Manchester; his five grandchildren, Kayla Benedetto of West Hartford, Gabrielle Benedetto of Old Bridge, NJ, Megan Benedetto of North Haven and Joseph and Timothy Crickmore of Manchester. Ray also leaves behind his brothers, Anthony "Tony" Benedetto and his wife Jane of Holland, MA and William "Bill" Benedetto and his wife Joan of Cheshire, and many nieces, nephews, and cousins whom he cherished. Ray was predeceased by his sister-in-law, Theresa "Terry" Benedetto.
There will be a Mass celebrating Ray's life on Monday, May 2 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Josephine Bakhita Parish at St. James Church, Rocky Hill. Donations in Ray's memory may be made to St. Josephine Bakhita Parish, 767 Elm Street, Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or The National Kidney Foundation, 30 East 33rd Street, New York, NY 10016, or at kidney.org. The D'Esopo Funeral Chapel, Wethersfield has been entrusted with the arrangements. To share a memory of Ray with his family, please visit www.desopofuneralchapel.com.

D'Esopo
Funeral Chapel

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Brophy, Josephy J

Brophy, Joseph J.
Our family is saddened to announce the passing of Joseph John "Jody" Brophy on April 13, 2022. Born September 26, 1954 in Hartford, CT to the late Jacqueline and Robert Brophy, Jody was raised in Bristol and graduated from St Paul High School in 1972. He went on to graduate from Unity College in 1976. Jody practiced Tai Chi and Qi Gong, loved to read, ski, sail, scuba dive, play golf, fish, listen to music and was an amazing cook. He was a sensitive soul who had a kind heart and was a good friend to those around him. Despite numerous attempts at gaining sobriety, Jody's addiction took him from this world. Our comfort is knowing he is free from this struggle at last.
He is survived by his son, Benjamin Brophy, his siblings Jan Jones, Rob Brophy and Joy Latvis and their families. A memorial gathering will be held this summer in Connecticut. Those wishing to do something in Jody's memory can make a contribution to Brian's Angels Homeless Outreach in Bristol, CT.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Casso, Joseph

Joseph P. Casso, 85, of Kensington, passed away peacefully on Wednesday April 27, 2022.
Born on November 12, 1936 in Cheshire, he was the husband of the late Hedwig (Heddy) Casso. He graduated from Cheshire Public High School in 1955 and then served in the U.S. Air Force from 1955 to 1959 when he left with an honorable discharge. He had retired as a manager of several convenience stores in 2009, was a 4th degree of the Knights of Columbus Kensington council #3675, a Eucharistic minister in Sacred Heart church E. Berlin and St. Paul Church in Kensington, a member of the American Legion post 68 Berlin as well as the Berlin Veterans Commission, and a volunteer driving instructor for AARP where he enjoyed helping seniors stay safe behind the wheel.
Joe is survived by his daughter: Donna and (Jeffrey) Mann of Meriden, sons: James Casso of Newington, Paul Casso of York, Maine, John and (Melissa) Casso of Berlin, and six grandchildren: Gabriel and Jeffrey Mann; Madison, Anthony and Peyton Casso; and Olivia Casso; and a brother: Brother Anthony Casso of Massachusetts, as well as many beloved nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by three brothers Allie, Patrick and Michael Casso.
Friends and family are invited to call at the Berlin Memorial Funeral Home 96 Main Street, Kensington on Sunday May 1, 2022 from 4 – 6 P.M. Everyone is invited to go directly to St. Paul Church 485 Alling St. on Monday May 2, 2022 at 11:30 a.m. for a Mass of Christian Burial. Burial with military honors will follow at Sacred Heart Cemetery, New Britain.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

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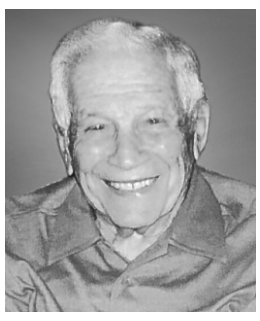
OBITUARIES

Bilodeau, Anna J.

Anna J. Bilodeau, 88, a lifelong resident of East Hartford, passed away peacefully on Thursday, April 14 at Hartford Hospital surrounded by her loving family.
She was born on March 3, 1934, in Hartford and was the daughter of Joseph and Mary (Roncaiola) Romeo.
Most recently Anna retired from Kamatics Corporation in the manufacturing department and went on to enjoy her passions as an accomplished gourmet cook and gardener as well as sharing her talent for knitting and sewing. However, her greatest pleasure was her family which she cherished.
Anna leaves behind her daughters Lisa Abbott (Todd) and Mary Riss; beloved grandchildren, Carlyle (Samir), Cassidy, Campbell, Nicole and Abby (and Paul); great grandchildren, Cameron and Caius; sister,
Joyce Kennedy (Ron) and nephews, Timothy (Noel) and Christopher.
She is pre-deceased by her brother Carl Romeo and loving partner of many years William Humphrey.
Anna will be deeply missed and at her request there will be a private burial and memorial. The Cremation Society of CT in Windsor has care of the arrangements.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

DeFranzo, Sr., Anthony J.



Anthony John DeFranzo, Sr.,104, of Windsor, beloved husband for 64 years of the late Irma (Cavalotti) DeFranzo, passed away peacefully in a loving circle of family on Monday, April 25, 2022.
He was born in Newington on January 20,1918, son of the late Michael and Christine DeFranzo.
Anthony was a Mechanic/Service Manager, retiring from the Ford Motor Company after decades of service. In semi-retirement, he worked at Dobbs/Gate Gourmet until the age of 92. A decorated veteran, Anthony proudly served his country in the United States Army in WWII.
He is survived by his children, Diane DeFranzo of Windsor, and Dr. Anthony John DeFranzo, Jr. of Winston-Salem, NC; his loving Labrador granddog, Kyla; brothers, George DeFranzo of New Hartford, and Michael DeFranzo, Jr. of Enfield; his sister, Lucille LaBianca of Enfield; and numerous cherished family and friends.
His family will receive friends on Sunday, May 1, 4-6 p.m., at Carmon Funeral Home, 807 Bloomfield Ave., Windsor, and on Monday, May 2, at 12 p.m., with a Prayer Service at 12:30 p.m. Burial, with Military Honors, will follow in Mt. St. Benedict Cemetery, Bloomfield.
To read the full obituary or leave a condolence for his family, please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com.

CARMON
Community Funeral Homes

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Lutz, Warren W

Warren William Lutz, 91, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, April 26th. Warren was the only child born to William and Elizabeth (Morganthaler) Lutz in NY, NY on June 8, 1930. He attended McBurney High School in Manhattan, where he excelled in basketball and track. He was an excellent student and was able to graduate at the age of 16. He earned his finance degree from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania and later went on to obtain his law degree from Fordham University. Warren was then proud to serve in the US Army during the Korean War. Warren valued education as demonstrated by his many degrees, including a Master of Science in Organizational Behavior and a Doctorate from the University of Hartford. Warren also obtained his Charter Life Underwriters Degree while working at the Travelers Insurance Company, where he was employed for over 35 years. Warren married Noreen (Meehan) and they were well known in town for their family of five sons and one daughter. Warren and Noreen were devoted parents and volunteered many hours to Simsbury Little League, Babe Ruth Baseball, St. Mary's Basketball, Midget League Football, and Simsbury Softball. He also served on the Board of Education for Simsbury Public Schools. Warren enjoyed the outdoors and spent many vacations camping with his family, with all the kids loaded into the back of the station wagon. He loved to talk about the value of hard work, education, and saving money. He often shared his wisdom on these matters with his kids and many grandchildren. In his retirement Warren enjoyed playing golf and getting together with his golfing buddies. Warren was also an avid reader, focusing mainly on history. Warren loved spending time with his adult kids and watching them give each other "the business". It was guaranteed to make him laugh. He was predeceased by Noreen Lutz, and granddaughters Katherine Lutz and Rachael Lutz. He is survived by his sons Bill, Bob, Steve (Sue), Rich, Jim (Jenny), and daughter Chris. Warren was blessed with 17 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren, with another one on the way. A private ceremony will be held by the family.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

LePage, Mary

Mary Viola LePage, 69, of East Windsor, loving wife of the late Marcel LePage, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by loved ones on Thursday, March 31, 2022. Mary battled pulmonary fibrosis, heart failure, and amyloidosis. She was born July 21, 1952, in Hartford, daughter of the late David and Joan (Burke) Vieira. She graduated from Windsor Locks High School in 1972. After graduating Mary worked at Reddington Carters of Windsor and later retired from St. Joseph Residence in Enfield. Mary enjoyed trips to Maine with her husband, Marcel to visit family. She enjoyed the beach and playing Jenga with family. Besides her husband and parents, she is predeceased by a sister, Carol Lavoie. She is survived by a sister and her husband, Sandra and Carl Vidito of Ellington; a nephew, Jason Lafayette of Somers and his girlfriend, Kimberly Martin of Monson; niece, Marcy Jediny and her husband, Zachary of Agawam; nephew, Jeremy Lavoie; brother-in-law, Ken Lavoie; great niece, Megan and Thomas Lafayette of Somers. The family wants to extend a special thank you to Beth Esstman, APRN at Palliative Care in St. Francis Hospital along with the Heart Failure Team for all the extra care they gave to Mary. Her family will receive friends Friday, April 22, 2022 from 3-5 PM at Carmon Funeral Home, 807 Bloomfield Ave., Windsor. Burial will be in Riverside Cemetery, Windsor at the convenience of the family. To leave on-line condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com

CARMON
Community Funeral Homes

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Livingston, Kathleen M.

Kathleen M. Livingston, 66, of Granby and formerly of Farmington, passed away after a courageous battle with cancer, Thursday, April 28, 2022. Born in Hartford, daughter of the late Clyde R. and Elynore (Adams) Livingston, she was raised in Unionville and graduated from Avon High School. She had been employed by CIGNA for 18 years and had been a Homemaker Aid as well as spending several years at Kmart. She enjoyed cooking, walking, listening to music, especially country music, swimming, and loved to travel. She leaves her partner Paul F. Davis of Granby; her brother Clyde R. Livingston, II and his wife Deanna of Simsbury; stepbrother Randy Perry of Palm Bay, FL; several nieces and nephews; several cousins she loved deeply; and her friend and care-giver Karen Dumez of Simsbury. Her family will receive friends Sunday May 1, 2022, from 4-6 pm at the Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center, 301 Country Club Road, Avon. Her Funeral Service will be Monday, May 2, 2022, 11 AM at Valley Brook Community Church, 160 Granville Road, North Granby. Burial will follow in Granby Cemetery. Contributions may be made to the CT Humane Society, 701 Russell Road, Newington, CT 06111. For directions or condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com

CARMON
Community Funeral Homes

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Robinson, Janet (Huber)

Janet Helen (Huber) Robinson, 81, New Haven, CT passed away on Friday, April 22, 2022 at Yale New Haven Hospital, after a series of health complications.
Janet was born on January 19, 1941 to Mary (Moore) Huber and Carl Huber in New Haven, CT. After graduating from Hillhouse High School in 1958, she went on to earn a Bachelors of Arts from Southern Connecticut State College.
After graduation, she taught 4th Grade at Mt. Carmel School in Hamden, CT and was a substitute teacher in public and private schools in southern New Hampshire and New Haven, CT. She earned her license to practice real estate in 1984 and she enjoyed that work for nearly 30 years with William Raveis Real Estate, Cuozzo Associates/Press-Cuozzo, Roe Curtis and Norman Properties.
Janet was married to David F. Robinson (b. 1936- d. 2005) from 1966 to 1985, who worked for Roadway Express for 32 Years. When Roadway Express honored David with a Salesforce award, they made an award for Janet, that said "You did good, too!"
A life-long learner, Janet was fascinated by archeology, early civilizations and early New England history. An avid treasure hunter, Janet was sure to find a needle in a haystack at open markets across the state. At antique shows, she was known to impart knowledge to friends and vendors about jewelry, patterns of china, cut glass, pressed glass, and quilting.
Janet had a creative energy, and a keen eye. She loved to sew and wore her own creations from as early as 9 and throughout her adult life. Her scarves and pocketbooks were coveted gifts, and her valentines cards and collages continue to be framed and displayed by family and friends. Her valentines were featured in an article in the New Haven Register.
Janet was active in supporting the Sister Cities movement in the 1980s, and hosted students from Avignon, France and Tamar Sachar, the Deputy Mayor of Ramat Gan, Israel, Chairperson of The Committee for Foreign Relations in her home.
Janet was also very proud of her Elm City roots, and enjoyed availing herself to all of the cultural assets of the city, particularly Yale Art Gallery, Yale Center for British Art, Concerts at Woolsey Hall and was a volunteer Docent at the Peabody Museum. She was enriched by travel, and was grateful to have visited Europe multiple times. Provincetown, MA was one of her favorite places. She instilled that enjoyment in her daughters, advising them to take every chance to travel – which they do!
Janet was predeceased by Carl Huber (father) Mary (May) Huber (mother), Jack Huber (Brother) and Jeanne Treanor (Sister). She is survived by her daughters Kerry K. Robinson (New York, NY), Catherine (Kate) C. Robinson, her husband Robert P. Vietzke, and her grandsons Alexander R. Vietzke and Theodore R. Vietzke, all of West Hartford, CT.
We would like to recognize the excellent and compassionate care given by the Doctors, Nurses and staff at the Heart and Vascular Unit at Yale New Haven Hospital, and VITAS Inpatient Hospice Care.
A visitation will be held at the Celentano Funeral Home, 424 Elm St., New Haven CT on Friday May 20th, 2022 from 5:00 - 7:00 PM. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday May 21, 2022 at 10:00 AM in St. Mary Church 5 Hillhouse Ave., New Haven, CT. Interment will follow at St. Lawrence Cemetery.
Memorial donations may be made to the New Haven Public Library Foundation at NHFPL Foundation, 133 Elm Street, New Haven, CT 06510

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Schulz, James E.

James E. Schulz, 67, of Glastonbury passed away peacefully at Manchester Memorial Hospital on Tuesday, April 26, 2022. He was the beloved husband of Meliney (Marcheselle) Schulz. Born in New Britain, Jim was the son of the late Werner and Theresa (Sera) Schulz. He grew up in West Hartford, moving to Glastonbury in 1982. Jim earned his Bachelors Degree at CCSU in 1976 and worked as a CPA for many years at Sheptoff, Reuber & Co and on his own. In addition to his wife, he is survived by his children who were the light of his life, daughter Sara E. Walker and her husband Dr. Alexander Walker of London, England, his son John E. Schulz and his partner Olivia DeCaro of Shelton, his brother William Schulz and his wife Barbara of Burlington, his uncle Bernie Bodine and cousin Mala of West Hartford, brother-in-law and sister-in-law Dr. Thomas Pazik and Leanne Pazik of Denver, CO and several nieces, nephews and cousins. Funeral services and burial will be at the convenience of the family. For online condolences, please visit www.mulryanfh.com.

MULRYAN
FUNERAL HOME

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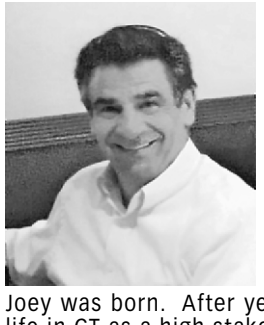
Visit the obituary section on courant.com to share memories of loved ones.

OBITUARIES

Saponaro, Joseph J.



Joseph J. Saponaro (Joe) passed away on April 26, 2022. He was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. Joe was born March 9, 1955 in Brooklyn, NY. In his early life he was a renowned plumber, known as the Pipe Doctor. It was in New York where he met his beautiful wife Donna of 32 years. A few years after they married, their adoring son Joey was born. After years in New York, Joe made his life in CT as a high stakes casino dealer. In this line of work he met a lot of famous people in his day, dealing to the likes of Pete Rose, David Ortiz, and Muhammad Ali. Just like anyone who came across Joe, they loved his outgoing and friendly personality. Griswold, CT is where Joe spent the past 27 years. A huge Pittsburgh Steelers fan, he would literally give the shirt off his back to anyone. An avid dancer and life of the party, in his free time he loved looking at open houses, cars, and even started to take up some golfing with his son upon retirement. One of his greatest joys though was becoming a Papa to his grandson Tyler, who he loved so dearly. Joe, son of Joseph and Millie Saponaro, is survived by his wife Donna, son Joey and his wife Annie, grandson Tyler, daughter Desiree, brother James Saponaro, sister Grace Arzillo, their spouses, and many nieces and nephews.

There will be a service TODAY April 29th at 1:30pm at Mulryan Funeral Home, 725 Hebron Ave., Glastonbury. Entombment will follow in Mount St. Benedict Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the American Cancer Society.

MULRYAN
FUNERAL HOME

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Washburn, George A.

George Arthur Washburn, of Tampa, after a full and blessed life, passed away peacefully in his home at the age of 98. Born in Holyoke, MA, he was the oldest of six children of the late Levi Edson and Lena Louise Washburn. After graduating high school, George enlisted and proudly served in the Army Air Force. By the young age of 20, he was a B-24 Liberator pilot as part of the 8th Air Force, 44th Bomb Group, flying 35 missions over Europe in WWII. After his enlistment, he returned home, married his high school sweetheart, Ruth Virginia Gladwin, and attended and graduated Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering. He worked at Northeast Utilities until he retired. George enjoyed flying, golfing, traveling and a good gin martini.

Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife of nearly 51 years, Ruth (Gladwin) Washburn; his son, Robert Edson Washburn and a brother, Gerald Washburn.

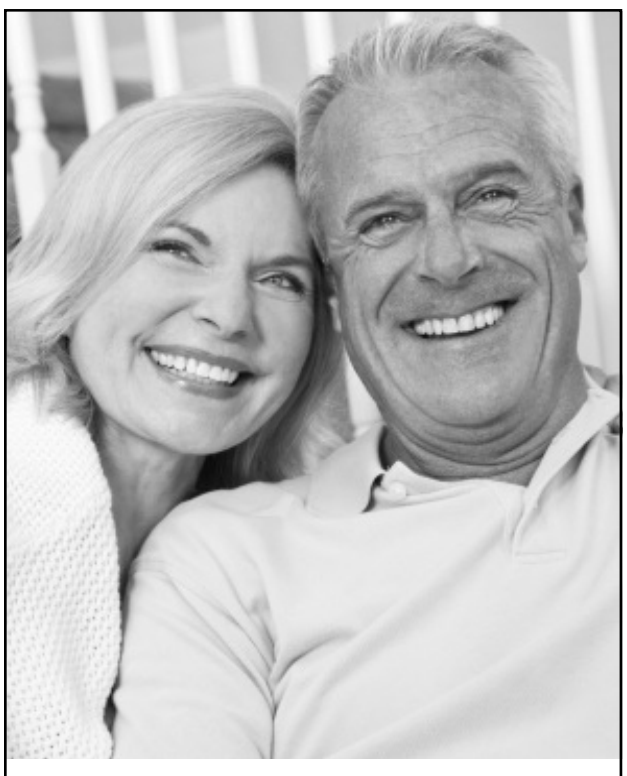
He will be remembered and deeply missed by his daughter and her husband, Nancy & Jim Franklin; his daughter-in-law, Joanne Creighton; his grandchildren, Chad and Loretta, Robert and Cassie, Tyler and Amy, Elizabeth and Heather, Jason and JoAnne, George and Natalie and Joe and Carrie; his 11 great grandchildren; his 2 great great grandchildren; his siblings, Betty Bodenorf, Arlene Bodertha, Barbara Lee, and Gene Washburn and his loving companion of the last 20 years, Cynthia Harmonowski.

Per his wishes, a Celebration of Life will be held on May 7 at 11am, at Gene Washburns residence, 2 Pitcher St, Montgomery, MA 01085

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in his name to:

Army Heritage Center Foundation, P.O. Box 839, Carlisle, PA, 17013

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries



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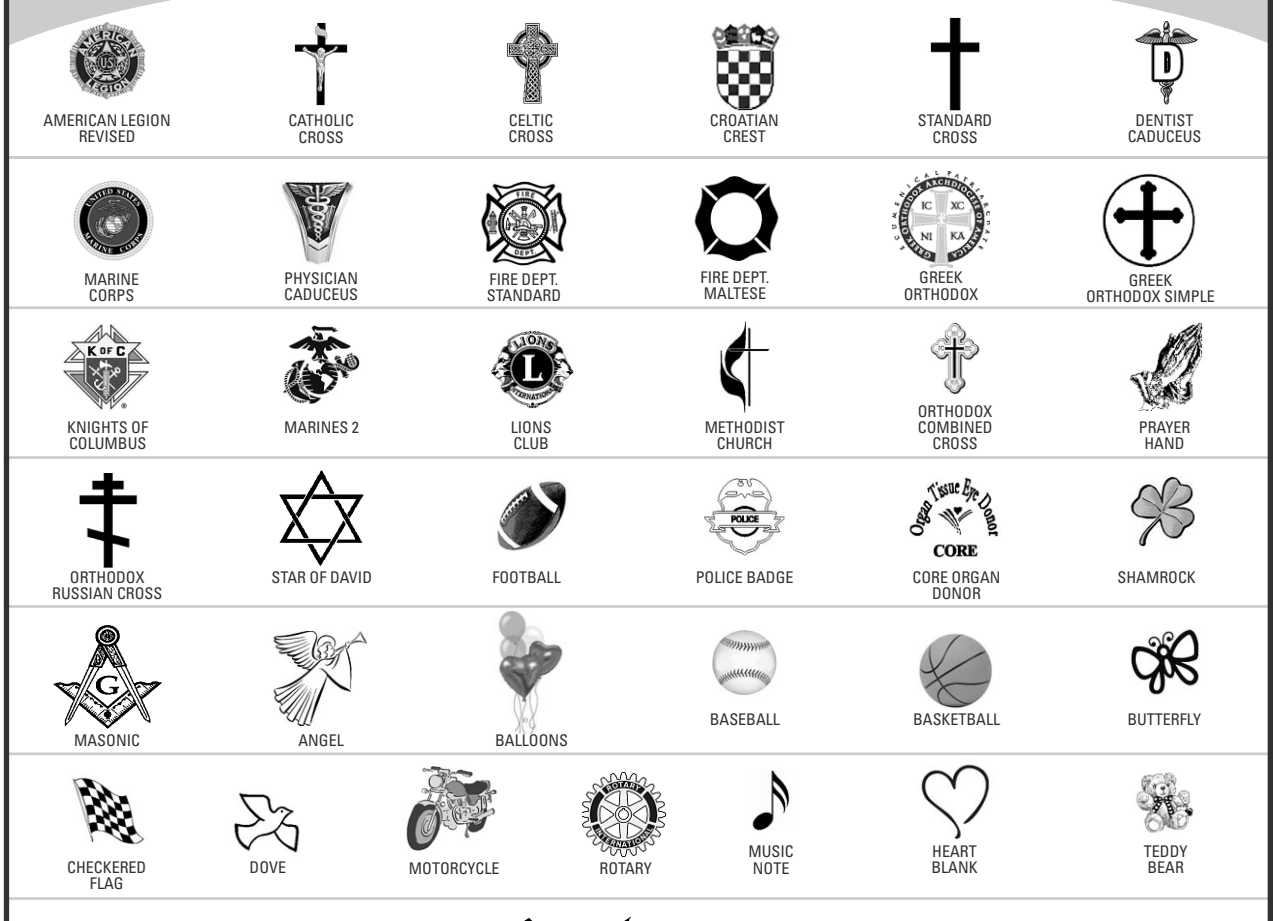

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Denise, adopted 17-year-old Amina

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CONNECTICUT

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On the agenda: Lollipop as state candy

How a group of fourth-graders from Fairfield got Connecticut legislators to debate their proposal

By Christopher Keating
Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — With less than one week left in the 2022 legislative session, Connecticut lawmakers have been working on weighty issues such as crafting the state's $24.2 billion budget, cutting taxes in an election year, and improving children's mental health at a time of widespread crisis.

But they also have a completely different bill on their agenda — whether to designate the lollipop as the state candy.

House Speaker Matt Ritter of Hartford has been heavily involved in the budget negotiations and was stunned to learn that the lollipop bill appeared on a list of bills to be voted on Thursday.

"I can't wait to read that," Ritter said when the measure was mentioned during the daily news conference at the state Capitol. "Are we doing a lollipop month? Is that what it is?"

When the issue was clarified, Ritter exclaimed, "The lollipop as the state candy? Why? Why? Was that debated? You know what? I'm not convinced."

House majority leader Jason Rojas of East Hartford, who helps decide which bills are debated on the floor each day, said, "People who came up and participated in the legislative hearing apparently made a very convincing argument."

"Really?" Ritter responded. "I have to read that testimony."

It turns out that a group of fourth-graders from the Dwight Elementary School in Fairfield has been pushing the proposal. They came up with the idea last year when they were third-graders, and they have continued the push since then. The students testified that the lollipop was invented in 1908 by a New Haven resident.

Hours later, Ritter told The Courant that he had read the bill and that the House was expected to vote Thursday.

"There's some very good provisions in there," Ritter said.

The proposal is part of a broader bill, known as House bill 5498, with about 10 different proposals for special days and months. The three-page legislation would direct the governor to designate June as Women Veterans Month, September as Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, and the first week of May as Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week to bring attention to an involuntary movement disorder.

Turn to Candy, *Page 2*

'FITBIT MURDER' TRIAL

Sister of slain woman testifies

Says Dabate was 'stoic' in describing alleged attack to his family

By Taylor Hartz
Hartford Courant

Richard Dabate arrived at his in-laws' house limping, but stoic, on Christmas Eve in 2015, the day after he says a stranger broke into his family's Ellington home and shot his wife to death, Connie Dabate's sister told a jury Thursday.

Marliese Shaw took the stand in week four of the trial against her former brother-in-law and recounted how Richard Dabate hobbled into her parents' house on the holiday and described his wife's murder — and his innocence — in a tone she called both "stoic" and "matter of fact."

It was the first time the family had heard how the 39-year-old mother had died, Shaw said. She was shot in the back of her head.

Looking first to his father, who Shaw said nodded toward him in a "go ahead" gesture, Dabate talked to the family about what he claimed to be a home invasion for about 25 minutes, Shaw said.

Authorities have said that information from Connie Dabate's Fitbit tracker contradicts Dabate's story and in April 2017 charged him with murder, tampering with evidence and lying to police.

According to Shaw's testimony, Dabate told the family that he left for work that morning as usual, but turned around and headed back to the family's large yellow and white home, set far back from Birch View Drive, when he realized he'd forgotten his laptop.

When he got home, he walked into the kitchen and heard a noise from upstairs. He thought it was the cats, Shaw remembered him saying.

Turn to Dabate, *Page 2*

Melvin Lyles peruses a book and prints by Rafael Concepcion, one of two photographers in "The Future is Latinx" exhibit at the Park Street Library. **CHRISTOPHER ARNOTT PHOTOS/HARTFORD COURANT**

At Park Street Library, 'The Future is Latinx'

Exhibit features work from pair of Connecticut photographers

By Christopher Arnott
Hartford Courant

A brightly colored future that spans Mexico, Puerto Rico and Connecticut is highlighted in "The Future Is Latinx," a new photography exhibit at Park Street Library @ the Lyric in Hartford.

Photos made by two Connecticut photographers, Rafael Concepcion and Adrian Martinez Chavez, are on view at the Hartford Public Library branch at 585 Park St. through the end of May.

Both the artists are enrolled in MFA photography programs in Connecticut. Chavez, who went to the University of Hartford as an undergraduate, is studying at the Yale School of Art. Concepcion will receive his masters degree from the University of Connecticut next month.

Most of Chavez's work is found downstairs in the library's front cafe area, but there is also a digital screen showing carefully chosen family photos

Turn to Latinx, *Page 2*

Photographer Adrian Martinez Chavez stands before a digital display charting his family's history.

"[The show is about] the early days, when my parents first came. They emigrated from Mexico in the 1980s. The photos are largely looking at family, our family, being Mexican American." *— Photographer Adrian Martinez Chavez*

Meeting virtually still an option

Legislators vote to let local boards decide on returning to town hall

By Mark Pazniokas
CT Mirror

The forced experiment of allowing local boards and commissions to meet virtually during the COVID-19 pandemic has been deemed a success worth continuing by the Connecticut General Assembly.

The Senate gave final passage Wednesday to a bill giving local boards and commissions the option to continue meeting remotely, as is currently allowed by an emergency pandemic law that expires on May 1.

"I'm particularly happy we've had this experiment forced on us," said Sen. Mae Flexer, D-Windham, the bill's lead sponsor as the co-chair of the Government Administration and Elections Committee.

Flexer, a working mother, said the ability to participate remotely as a member of the public or as a public official allows local government to embrace the same flexibility adopted by many businesses as a new normal.

Opponents, most of whom say they welcome remote participation as an element of public meetings, objected to the notion that local meetings could move out of town hall entirely and exist only on the web.

"The debate is whether or not we are going to allow local government to stop having in-person meetings," said Sen. Rob Sampson, R-Wolcott, the ranking Republican on the GAE committee. "That is the issue."

The Senate voted 25-11 for passage for House Bill 5269, with two Republicans, Sens. Paul Formica of East Lyme and Kevin Witkos of Canton, joining all 23 Democrats in support.

The House voted 101-40 for passage on April 13, with eight Republicans in support.

Developer going ahead with mega-warehouse in Windsor

Even if Chewy pulls out of project, construction could start this summer

By Don Stacom
Hartford Courant

Online pet products retailer Chewy may not be coming to a new mega-warehouse in Windsor after all, but a developer still plans to construct the 750,000-square-foot building and seek different tenants.

The Chicago-based JLL real estate management firm announced this week that NorthPoint Development has hired it as leasing agent for the massive logistics center planned along the Day Hill Road corridor.

Mayor Donald Trinks confirmed that town officials have been informed Chewy, the original tenant planned for the center, wanted to pause the massive project.

But NorthPoint, the builder, is pressing ahead and plans to start construction this summer. When it was leading the project, Chewy estimated the cost would be $110 million.

"Windsor offers an ideal location for logistics as well as a healthy, pro-business environment with attractive development incentives for qualified projects," Brent Miles of NorthPoint said in a statement.

Northpoint plans to build on a 93-acre tract of fields and woodlands north of Great Pond, about a half-mile from the Day Hill Road and Route 187 merger.

"The speculative new construction will feature 40-foot clear heights, 75 dock doors, parking for 150 trailers and 588 cars," JLL said in its announcement.

JLL hasn't specified what prospective tenants it will market the logistics center to, but the area around Bradley International Airport has been adding mega-warehouses and fulfillment centers for Amazon, Home Depot, Walgreen's, Dollar Tree and others.

Turn to Warehouse, *Page 2*

Waterbury drug dealer sentenced to federal prison

By Taylor Hartz
Hartford Courant

A 25-year-old man from Waterbury will spend nearly three years in federal prison for his role in a vast drug-trafficking ring in the city.

Isaac "Ike" Wilson was sentenced Wednesday to 33 months behind bars plus three years of supervised release by U.S. District Judge Vanessa L. Bryant in Hartford, after pleading guilty to one count of distributing heroin and crack, according to a statement from the office of the United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut Leonard C. Boyle.

A grand jury last year indicted Wilson and more than a dozen others who were trafficking large amounts of heroin, cocaine and crack in Waterbury, according to the office.

The drug-trafficking ring was busted following a nearly two-year investigation that involved court-authorized wiretapping, surveillance, undercover drug deals and motor vehicle stops by the Drug Enforcement Administration's New Haven Task Force and the Waterbury Police Department, according to court documents.

The investigation, which began in May 2020, found that in November and December 2020 Wilson made multiple orders for heroin and crack from 55-year-old Zachary Lee Foster — who was also charged in connection to the drug ring — and then sold the drugs, records show.

Wilson has been in custody since his arrest on March 3, 2021, when law enforcement officers acted on several search warrants and seized 40,000 bags of heroin, 350 grams of cocaine, 50 grams of crack and nine firearms, according to court records.

Foster pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute a controlled substance and is awaiting sentencing at the Hartford Correctional Center, records show.

POLICE BRIEFS

BRISTOL

Search is on after shots fired into cars

Police said they are searching for a silver sedan from which shots were fired into occupied cars in Bristol on Wednesday.

No one was injured in the gunfire, which rang out in the area of Jerome Avenue and Mix Street about 12:10 a.m., police said.

First, police received a 911 call from someone saying that people in a car had fired shots into the back of his vehicle.

A short time later, a second caller said his windshield was struck by gunfire. The car from which bullets were fired had cut him off, Lt. Geoffrey Lund said Thursday.

Police believe the occupants of the first car were targeted, he said.

Anyone who saw the shots being fired or who might have video of it is asked to call Bristol police at 860-584-3011.

— Christine Dempsey

MANCHESTER

Convicted felon faces federal gun charge

A convicted felon from Manchester who authorities say was caught with a loaded Smith & Wesson in February faces a federal gun charge, a U.S. Attorney's office spokesman said Thursday.

A federal grand jury on April 20 returned an indictment charging Elliott Otero, 32, with unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon, Tom Carson said. Otero pleaded not guilty before U.S. Magistrate Robert A. Richardson in Hartford Wednesday. He has been detained since his arrest on related state charges Feb. 25.

On that day, police said he had a loaded Smith & Wesson M&P 380 Shield pistol. Carson said he was not supposed to have a gun because of his criminal history, including felony convictions for firearm, robbery, and theft offenses.

State court records show Otero was arrested on more than a dozen charges that day, including three counts of first-degree reckless endangerment.

— Christine Dempsey

Waterbury man arraigned in wife's stabbing death

By Taylor Hartz
Hartford Courant

A Waterbury man was arraigned on murder charges Thursday in connection to the death of his 24-year-old wife, who died while laying in the street with multiple stab wounds earlier this week, police said.

Ainsley Panton, 28, was arraigned at Saint Mary's Hospital in Waterbury on Thursday, where he was taken after his wife Moesha Panton Watson was found dead two days earlier. He is being held in lieu of a $3 million bond, according to the Waterbury Police Department.

Panton was arrested on Tuesday after police found him at what they described as a crime scene inside the couple's home at 428 Willow St. with their two young children, ages 3 and 5, police said.

He was charged with murder and two counts of risk of injury to a child, police said.

Officers had been called to the area of Willow Street and Roseland Avenue for a report of an assault. They found Panton Watson lying in the street not far from their home with cuts to her neck and wrist and other stab wounds on her body, police said.

Though not injured, Panton was taken to the hospital because he told police he needed medical attention.

The couple's children were taken to Waterbury Hospital to be evaluated and were then placed into the custody of the Connecticut Department of Children and Families, police said.

No information about the cause or manner of Watson's death had yet been released by the Connecticut Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

Dabate

from Page 1

He told his family he went upstairs to investigate the noise and saw a large man, dressed in all camouflage and wearing a mask, standing in their bedroom closet rummaging through their jewelry.

"He had a voice like Vin Diesel," Shaw said Dabate told the family, and demanded his cash, credit cards and pin numbers. Dabate said he handed them over, Shaw said.

Then, Dabate told his family he heard the garage door open, then the kitchen door. He figured his wife's cycling class at the YMCA must have been canceled and she was home early. He shouted for her to run, he told them, warning her that someone was in the house.

The masked intruder then ran downstairs, he told them, and Dabate heard his wife heading down to the basement.

"He thought she was going to get the gun and save him," Shaw said on the stand.

Shaw said she and her father were surprised to hear that part of Dabate's account that day. She'd never known her sister to own or handle a gun.

At some point, Dabate fell down the stairs, but eventually made his way to the basement, too. He told his family he heard a noise that was louder than anything he'd ever heard before, Shaw said.

Connie Dabate was found dead in the basement from two gunshots, her body strewn across a cluttered area.

After the gunshots rang out, the intruder then gripped Dabate "by pressure points" and led him into the kitchen, where, wearing yellow gloves, he stabbed Dabate in the legs with Dabate's own boxcutter and tied him to a metal chair with zip ties, he told the family.

He managed to grab hold of a blowtorch and scorched the man's face; the burnt intruder then took off, Dabate told them.

Last week, dozens of neighbors testified that on the morning of the murders, they were out and about in the neighborhood — heading to work, bringing children to school or to the bus stop — and did not see anyone unfamiliar, or anyone wearing all camouflage, in the area.

Richard Dabate, left, leaves Rockville Superior Court on April 5 with his attorney Trent LaLima after the first day of his trial in the 2015 fatal shooting of his wife, Connie Dabate. **TAYLOR HARTZ/HARTFORD COURANT**

State's Attorney Matthew C. Gedansky asked Shaw about Dabate's demeanor during this visit with his family, and the sister said she saw little emotion from him. She said that after walking them through what happened, he called his father to ask him to get his passport from the house — he said he needed it to get a new phone and money, because police had his phone and wallet, Shaw said.

The family later learned that Dabate was having an affair at the time of the murder.

Investigators found that Dabate was having an affair with a woman who was pregnant with his child. She was due to give birth a few months after Connie Dabate's death, according to police records.

Gedansky on Thursday asked Shaw if, on that Christmas Eve, their family knew about the baby. She said they didn't.

Connie Dabate's other sister, Leslie Garabedian, took the stand on Wednesday.

It has been more than six years since Connie Dabate was killed and five years since Richard Dabate was charged in connection to her death.

He is free on a $1 million bond and his trial is scheduled to continue Friday in Rockville Superior Court.

Latinx

from Page 1

of the artist on the second floor, where Concepcion's work is also hanging.

Chavez says the slide show is about "the early days, when my parents first came. They emigrated from Mexico in the 1980s. The photos are largely looking at family, our family, being Mexican American." He noted that his parents worked on Broad Street right next to the old library.

Concepcion uses photography "as a means to explore things I'm interested in. My work revolves around communication. A lot of what I do is in the tradition of documentaries."

Concepcion's photos are large and vivid, taken on trips he made to Puerto Rican between 2016 and 2021. Some have people posing in them, but many, including an arresting image of dogeared books lying on a bench, do not.

The Chavez photos displayed downstairs are in black and white and include a couple in which men in Chavez's family are cutting their hair.

The exhibit was curated by Julia Winter, the art gallery curator for Eastern Connecticut State University.

Photos by Rafael Concepcion hang at the Park Street Library branch. **CHRISTOPHER ARNOTT/HARTFORD COURANT**

"I asked the faculty at UConn for suggestions," Winter says. "I have a long history of working with public libraries. Museums are not enough. Artists should exhibit wherever they can."

Winter says she was open to other media for this exhibit, but liked the idea of having just photography, and thinks that "photography is easy to display" in libraries.

"The Future Is Latinx" is only the second art exhibit to be held at the Park Street Library @ the Lyric, which opened last year when the old Park Street branch moved to a large new facility on the site of the old Lyric cinema.

Christopher Arnott can be reached at carnott@courant.com.

Candy

from Page 1

Sept. 7 would be proclaimed as Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Awareness to highlight a rare genetic disease that affects the muscles, while Sept. 14 would become Free Enterprise Day.

If approved and signed by Gov. Ned Lamont, the designations would take effect on Oct. 1.

The legislature's Government Administration and Elections Committee approved the measure by 19-0 and sent it to the House.

The bill raised memories of a debate last year to designate pizza as the official state food.

During a debate lasting less than 15 minutes in the state House of Representatives, lawmakers across the state mentioned their local pizzerias as among the best in Connecticut and urged their colleagues to visit.

Although some residents had criticized the proposed designation as a waste of time, no lawmakers spoke against the bipartisan bill before approving it by a 131-9 vote with 11 members absent. Eight conservative Republicans joined with one Democrat, Rep. Geoff Luxenberg of Manchester, in opposing the measure, which was immediately sent to the state Senate for further action.

Rep. Patricia Dillon, a Democrat who is among the longest-serving legislators, co-sponsored the bill with Sen. Gary Winfield during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic because their hometown of New Haven has been lauded for decades for outstanding pizza.

Rep. Tim Ackert, a Coventry Republican who supported the bill, said he prefers lobster rolls in his culinary repertoire.

"We have five pizza joints in the little, tiny town of Coventry," Ackert said. "I'm just amazed at the amount of pizza restaurants that a town can sustain when we have five in a 12,000-person town."

The pizza designation eventually failed last year as time ran out on the session without a vote by the Senate.

Christopher Keating can be reached at ckeating@courant.com

A rendering of the 750,000-square-foot warehouse in Windsor. Kansas City-based NorthPoint Development plans to go ahead with constructing the building, even though Chewy Inc. — its planned tenant — has either delayed or dropped its plan for a Windsor fulfillment center. **COURTESY**

Warehouse

from Page 1

"With unrivalled access to both the New York and New England markets, two of the densest markets in the Northeast, Windsor is an ideal and proven logistics hub," said James Panczykowski, the senior managing director with JLL's Northeast Industrial Region.

"This high-quality, mission-critical facility will provide powerful solutions to companies seeking a space with access to nearly 50 million consumers within a five-hour drive."

Northpoint anticipates construction of a service road starting in June and completion of the entire project by next April.

Chewy said in the winter that it had studied a series of sites in other communities before deciding on Windsor. It planned to generate up to 1,000 full-time jobs at the massive regional fulfillment center processing its online orders.

Missouri-based Chewy has not publicly commented on the state of those plans and did not return a message Friday.

"Chewy had decided at a minimum to put this on hold," town manager Peter Souza said Thursday.

"NorthPoint and Winstanley, the property owner, are going to go ahead with planning and permitting. We'd love to have Chewy be one of our corporate neighbors, but that's a business decision Chewy will have to decide on its own timing.

As initially proposed, the project was expected to yield $4.6 million in fees and tax revenue for the town in the first several years, even with a municipal tax phase-in and 30% reduction in building permit rates.

Chewy had planned investing $65 million in new equipment beyond the building construction cost, and it estimated the center would create 1,000 local jobs within the first three years of operations.

A chance to go witch-hunting in Wethersfield

Immersive drama brings audience along in 'Hallowed Ground'

By Christopher Arnott
Hartford Courant

The cast and audience of "Hallowed Ground" in the yard outside the Buttolph-Williams House in Wethersfield, where the immersive witch-hunting drama has four performances. **ESCAPISM PRODUCTIONS/COURTESY**

IF YOU GO: "Hallowed Ground: A 17th Century Immersive Drama" written and directed by Jess Bolduc and produced by Escapism Productions in partnership with Connecticut Landmarks, runs April 29 and 30 and May 6 and 7 at the Buttolph-Williams House, 249 Broad St., Wethersfield. Performances are Friday and Saturday at 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. Tickets are $45.

The local theater group Escapism Productions is letting modern folks witness the drama of life in the 1600s, everything from homesteading to witch-hunting to murder.

At the end of "Hallowed Ground: A 17th Century Immersive Drama," some of the people you have stood next may be revealed as a witch or a murderer. The show has two performances each night on April 29 and 30 and May 6 and 7 in historic Old Wethersfield.

An early run-through of the show on April 20 — the first night that the actors performed the piece — had some glitches were that were still being worked out.

"Hallowed Ground" immerses you not just in a different environment but in a different time. The show is set in 1677 in the fictional Connecticut township of Pendle Valley.

To begin, the audience gathers in a parking area behind the backyard of the historic Buttolph-Williams House, where the show's writer and director Jess Bolduc describes the special circumstances of immersive drama: Scenes can be played out in several different places at the same time. No audience member can see or hear everything that's happening. Hints will be dropped. Secrets will be shared. The actors are working from a general outline and some fixed lines, but many of their lines are improvised.

Bolduc also sets the scene: "These people are scared. They've had a hard winter. They've asked the neighbors for help. ... This is the 17th century, and magic is real."

Candles light the path from the parking lot to the Buttolph-Williams House. The rooms of the house are dim and candle-lit as well. The stroll through a woody grove is initially led by Bolduc, but then the party is joined by one of the play's characters, Justice Isaac Thayer, who has made his own travels to the house.

Audience members must wear masks — "Most things in the house are not ours, are not props," Bolduc says, explaining that a thorough cleaning of the premises is not an option — but the actors are not masked and mingle with the audience freely.

In the house we learn that it's been a hard winter. Crops are failing. There have been curious illnesses, disappearances and deaths. Someone is robbing graves.

The show only lasts around an hour, but due to all the overlaps and simultaneous voices and shouts and thumps and eerie breezes, it's a full experience.

Some scenes are played in almost total darkness, while others involve long prayers or teary confessions. The drama comes naturally from humans in close proximity. Any special effects are generally subtle. There are projections, shadowy corners, whispered revelations. The main shocks mostly come from when the actors scream, which is the most effective way to move the other actors and all the observers to a new location.

There are accusations, suspicions and crimes, and there's an opportunity to poll the audience at the show's conclusion to see who's guilty of what crime. The ending, and the villain, can change from night to night.

"Hallowed Ground" has a cast of six women, with some playing male roles. Justice Thayer is portrayed by Nicole Morin, Captain Nicolas Whitaker is played by Sarah Ghonaim and Clasina Jones is the cocky, mysterious Judah Symonds. Women playing female roles include Sarah Elizabeth as Locasta Alcott, Elizabeth Reynolds as Sebeliah "Kitty" Wardwell and Lorena Schmidt as Elise Faucher.

"We had men come out to audition for this show," says "Hallowed Ground" producer and dramaturg Jackson Kulinski, "but we knew from the start that we wanted to cast the best actors we could in the roles, and the cards happened to fall this way. Having an all-female cast perform a show about 17th-century New England witchcraft, though, certainly added a touch of perspective and nuance that otherwise may have never come up."

"Hallowed Ground" was meant to be performed two years ago but was postponed by the pandemic. Another Escapism Productions show in conjunction with Connecticut Landmarks, "Mourning Wreath Upon the Door," ending up happening first, in October of 2021 at the Isham-Terry House in Hartford.

There's an added level of reality, and creepiness, when stepping into a house that was built in 1711, seeing people dressed in waistcoats and shawls, acting aggrieved and terrified at close quarters while shadows creep along the low ceilings and thin staircase. The actors accuse each other and defend themselves: "How dare you say my name in the same breath as thievery?" Words and phrases like "grimoire" and "wee beasties" are bantered about.

The audience can also get in some good lines. When two sections of onlookers passed in the backyard at the preview show, someone in the crowd advised: "Mind the branches!"

Christopher Arnott can be reached at carnott@courant.com.

Daffodil Fest brings the fun, flowers and music to Meriden

From cover bands to original folk, funk and R&B, a look at who's playing and when this weekend

By Christopher Arnott
Hartford Courant

The Shellye Valauskas Experience, featuring Valauskas and husband Dean Falcone, will perform Saturday at the Meriden Daffodil Festival. **KATHLEEN CEI/COURTESY**

The Meriden Daffodil Festival isn't just about tens of thousands of daffodils. It isn't just about the vendors, the artisans the food tent, the carnival rides, the parade or the crowning of Little Miss Daffodil.

It's also about the bands.

In its more than four decades of existence, the annual Meriden Daffodil Festival in Hubbard Park has become one of Connecticut's foremost showcases of live local music. Famous bands from Miracle Legion to The MGMT have played there. It's a family festival, but some folks come just for the music.

The free festival traditionally happens during the last week of April, but the last two were canceled due to the COVID pandemic. That makes this year's festival, which is April 30 and May 1, a time of rebuilding.

The music schedule reflects that, anchored by veteran acts that in some cases have been around since the 1980s and including plenty of younger talent as well. Styles range from tribute and cover bands to original pop, folk, funk, indie and R&B. Americana and folk rock seem particularly in fashion at the fest this year.

There are three stages, and the schedules overlap so that there's music playing somewhere at all times. The Welcome Stage is the first one you come to when you exit the shuttle buses. The Bandshell stage is the largest, and you can hear those bands while you're on the carnival rides. There's also music in the grand food tent, somewhat muffled by the sounds of food ordering and eating.

We've listed the bands here, in the order in which they appear, and have added some of our fave songs by these acts. (We have no idea if they plan to play those songs this weekend, but we like 'em and invite you to check 'em out online.)

Saturday music schedule

Bop Tweedie and The Days, swirling indie rocker whose "Let It Go Let It Go" album was released last year. Cool song: "Glad I Live Today." (11:15 a.m. Saturday, Welcome stage).

Fuster Cluck, featuring the busy bar act Chris Marolda. Cool song: a guitar-drenched cover of "Drift Away." (11:30 a.m. Saturday, food tent).

Cathedral, a Van Halen tribute. Cool song: Name your favorite Eddie Van Halen solo and Tyler Morris can probably play it. (12:30 p.m. Saturday, Bandshell).

Shellye Valauskas Experience, a sterling pop band featuring Valauskas longtime collaborator (and husband) Dean Falcone on guitar' Cool song: "Leftover Mistake." (12:30 p.m. Saturday, Welcome).

Ramblin' Dan Stevens, fingerstyle blues guitarist from Old Lyme. Cool song: His cover of Dave Van Ronk's version of Bessie Smith's "Tain't Nobody's Business." (1 p.m. Saturday, food tent).

Julian Sherwood's Palace, original indie rock. Cool song: "VIbrant Way." (1:45 p.m., Welcome).

Eagles Experience, a tribute to you-know-who. Cool song: You'd have to be an Eagles fan. (2:30 p.m. Saturday, Bandshell stage).

River City Slim and The Zydeco Hogs, Louisiana-styled party band. Cool song: "Rockin' the Zydeco World." (2:30 p.m. Saturday, food tent).

Farewood, the dreamy decades-old indie combo fronted by the married couple Leah Booker and Lou Lorenzo. Cool song: "Beyond the Waves." (3 p.m. Saturday, Welcome).

Brian Dolzani, the Fairfield-based singer and songwriter with a strong yet laid-back folk-pop sensibility. Cool song: "Be My Tonight." (4 p.m. Saturday, food tent).

Ponybird, featuring the eclectic songwriting and vocals of Jennifer Dauphinais. Cool song: "Let Something Fall Apart." (4:15 p.m., Welcome).

The Bernadettes, the well-established New Haven area R&B ensemble and party band. Cool song: The Bernadettes jamming on Bruno Mars' "Treasure." (4:30 p.m. Saturday, Bandshell).

Big Sigh, "psychedelic alternative" act that released its first EP in March. Cool song: "Dog Boy," the video for which features a cute dog. (5:30 p.m., Welcome).

The Recalcitrants, about whom little is known. (5:30 p.m. Saturday, food tent).

Jake Kulak and the Lowdown, the young guitarist and his electric blues combo. Cool song: "Get Faded (and Go)." (6:30 p.m. Saturday, Bandshell).

Bad Dog, Hartford-based hard rock covers. Cool song: They can cover "Bulls on Parade" by Rage Against the Machine. (6:45 p.m. Saturday, Welcome).

Coconuts, the comedy rock and "ultimate Baby Boomer party band! Cool song: "They Call the Pill Viagra"; who else does "Paint Your Wagon" parodies? (7 p.m. Saturday, food tent).

Sunday music schedule

The Sparkle and Fade, six-piece pop/rock band with harmonies. (10:45 a.m., Welcome).

Johnny I. All Stars, students of Cheshire-based guitar teacher John Ingrassia. (11:30 p.m., Bandshell).

Jeff Burnham, American folk rock. (11:30 a.m., food tent).

The Sawtelles, the sparse and moody indie guitar/drums duo whose new album is "Promises and Codes." (noon, Bandshell).

Jason Ingriselli and The Miles North, Connecticut-based Nashville fans, replete with steel guitar. (1 p.m., Bandshell)..

Orquesta Afinke, the Bridgeport salsa band that's considered among the best in the state. Cool song: a lively percussive take on "Lloraras." (1 p.m., food tent).

Lys Guillorn and Her Band, the self-described "alt-folk-psych-rock troubadour," a dazzling singer-songwriter who can bring a rough rock feel to tender lyrics, seen here happily with a full band. Cool song: "Chipped Fingernails." (1:15 p.m., Welcome).

Tiny Ocean, Americana/folk/rock. Cool song: "Flame and the Fang." (2:30 p.m., Welcome).

Hannah's Field, eclectic earthy jam band. Cool song: "Puff Puff Give." (2:30 p.m., Bandshell).

Brian Larney, singer andsongwriter from Bridgeport. Cool song: his new single "One Cloud in the Sky" (with Dean Falcone).(2:30 p.m., food tent).

Eddie Seville & Steel Rodeo, Local "outlaw rock" legend. Cool song: "You Can't Break a Heart." (4 p.m. Bandshell).

Hard Luxury, Torrington rock, covers and originals. Cool song: Their cover of Tool's "Sober." (4 p.m., Welcome).

Shaded Soul, contemporary soul and R&B covers. Cool song: They cover Lizzo's "Good as Hell." (4 p.m., Welcome).

If you go

The Meriden Daffodil Festival takes place Saturday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Hubbard Park in Meriden. Admission is free. There is no public parking in the park during the festival. Shuttle buses can be boarded at Westfield Shopping Mall, Platt High School — 220 Coe Avenue, Lincoln Middle School and HC Wilcox Technical High School. daffodilfest.com.

Christopher Arnott can be reached at carnott@courant.com.

Marina Indian takeout restaurant opens in South Glastonbury

By Susan Dunne
Hartford Courant

Glastonbury's restaurant scene seems to be rebounding from the pandemic and becoming more eclectic every day. The newest cuisine in town is Indian. Marina opened April 14 at 2249 New London Turnpike, serving primarily takeout lunch and dinner, and soon, perhaps, breakfast.

Senthil Kumar Gurunathan, one of the partners, is from Chennai, in the southern Tamil Nadu state. The restaurant, which is in South Glastonbury where Gbury to Go used to be, is named after a huge beach in Chennai.

In southern India, food tends to be spicy.

"We use them all, garam masala, chili, cardamom, cloves, cinnamon, nutmeg, star anise, fennel, cumin, bay leaves," Gurunathan said.

The menu at Marina is a mix of spicy and mild dishes, to suit all tastes.

"We can make spicy foods less spicy, medium, but we cannot make the spicy foods mild," said Gurunathan, who lives in South Windsor. "We don't want to just focus on Indian people, we want to focus on all people."

The menu is full of what Gurunathan called "everyday food in India," with a lot of meatless options, because up to 40% of residents of India are vegetarian.

Appetizers come in veg, chicken, goat, lamb and seafood, and range from $7.99 for a simple three-piece potato and pea samosa platter, to $17.99 for the lamb fry and mutton chukka, in which the meat is layered with spices. Other appetizers include the spicy kodi vepudu, chili chicken and chili paneer, and the milder shrimp pepper fry, baby corn Manchurian and onion padkoda fritters.

Entrees, ranging from 11.99 for a dal fry to $17.99 for a lamb tikka masala, also have spicy options such as shrimp, mutton or fish curries, vindaloos and kadai chicken. Milder options include the vegetarian Navratan korma and peanut butter masala and chicken Chettinad.

The menu also features tandoori vegetables, chicken, shrimp and fish; biryani made with egg, vegetables, chicken, goat, lamb or shrimp; desserts such as gulab jamun, kheer and rasmalai; as well as beverages and sides.

Gurunathan said Marina has applied for an outdoor dining permit to put a few dozen seats on a grassy strip to the side of the restaurant. He also hopes to eventually serve Indian breakfast foods, such as dosa, idli and medu vada, which are basically savory donuts made with coconut, herbs and spices.

Marina is open 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Tuesday to Sunday, closing for 2 ½ hours daily and reopening from 5 to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 5 to 8:30 p.m. Sunday to Thursday. Closed Monday.

Susan Dunne can be reached at sdunne@courant.com.

1/2

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TRIBUNE PUBLISHING

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

MIDDLETOWN ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
MAY 5, 2022

PUBLIC COMMENT MAY BE LIMITED TO FIVE MINUTES. PUBLIC IS ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS PRIOR TO OR AT THE PUBLIC HEARING

1. Request for a variance of Section 21.02 for the proposed frontage of Lot 5 in a five lot subdivision at 665 Ridgewood Rd. Applicant/Agent: Antonio Cuomo/Hubbard Properties, LLC.

Steven Kovach, Chair
Zoning Board of Appeals

4/22 & 4/29/22 7194141

Notice is hereby given that Extra Space Storage will sell at public auction, to satisfy the lien of the owner, personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at location indicated:
ExtraSpace Storage, 56 Pameacha Ave, Middletown,Ct 06457 860-575-7610
May 4, 2022 at 11:00 AM
Neil Alan Unit#2153 Household Items
Eric Moisa Unit#3006 Household Items
Nancy Young Unit#3154 Household Items
Eve Kavanagh Unit#4009 Household Items
The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storagetreasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property
4/29/2022 7197829

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF RONALD A. RAFFELE, Late of Portland (22-00104)

The Hon. Jennifer L. Berkenstock, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Region # 14 Probate Court, by decree dated April 25, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Suzanne B. Emond, Clerk

The fiduciary is:

Diane Raffele
c/o NANCY W TONUCCI, BROWN PAINDIRIS & SCOTT LLP, 750 OLD MAIN ST STE 304, ROCKY HILL, CT 06067

4/29/22 7200009

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

The following self-storage Cube contents containing household and
other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart 201 Lake Ave Bristol CT 06010 to satisfy a lien
on May 12th, 2022 at approx. 1:00pm at the following site [www.storagetreasures.com]
Cube #67 Richard Burns; Cube #275 Maureen A. Molleur; Cube #345 Tyshanique Graves; Cube #387 Jessica Combies; Cube #493 Michael Veillette.
4/28, 4/29/2022 7195932

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF KILLINGWORTH
RFP Gravestone Repair

The Town of Killingworth, CT is seeking proposals and costs for conservation and restoration work on eighteenth and nineteenth century gravestones in the Union District Cemetery, Roast Meat Hill Road, Killingworth, Connecticut. All work performed shall be in compliance with the requirements of the American Institute for Conservation (AIC) Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice and will comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

Proposals must be received by Monday, May 23, 2022 at 4 p.m. Bids will be opened and read in public at the Killingworth Board of Selectmen's meeting to be held at 7:00 p.m. that evening. Each proposer is responsible for checking the Town's website to determine if the Town has issued any addenda and, if so, to complete its proposal in accordance with the RFP as modified by the addenda.

The Town of Killingworth reserves the rights to amend or terminate this Request for Proposals, accept all or any part of a proposal, reject all proposals, waive any informalities or non-material deficiencies in a proposal, and award the proposal to the proposer that, in the Town's judgment, will be in the Town's best interests.
Minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids and are encouraged to do so. The Town of Killingworth is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.
Nancy Gorski for the Board of Selectmen
4/29/22 7200216

LEGAL NOTICE
CHESTER PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

Notice is hereby given that the Chester Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 7:00 PM at the Chester Town Hall, 203 Middlesex Avenue, Chester, CT to hear the following:

Application for Special Exception: Building expansion with roof appurtenances at 91 Main Street. Applicant: Cove Hollow, LLC

Details available on Town website or from zoningofficial@chesterct.org. At this Hearing interested parties may appear and be heard; written correspondence will be received and made a part of the record. Copy of the above is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk for public review.

Bettie Perreault, Secretary

Dated at Chester, Connecticut this 29st day of April 2022.
4/29,5/6/22 7199530

Notice of Decision
April 19, 2022 – Zoning Board of Appeals

The Essex Zoning Board of Appeals conducted their regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Essex Town Hall, Meeting Room A and also public access via online through Zoom. The following Decisions were rendered:

APPROVED issuance of a variance for Application No. 22-02 on behalf of Douglas and Sharon Chan, 11 Clark Lane, Essex, CT, Assessor's Map 17 Lot 12, RU District, requesting variances to Sections 40C, 40D, 40E, 40J, 61B, 101D, and 101E for replacement of existing single-family home with a new single-family home that is more code complying but is 39.79 ft in height where 35 ft is allowed and is located within 100 feet of the coastal jurisdiction line, the Gateway Buffer Area.

APPROVED issuance of a variance for Application No. 22-03 on behalf of Elizabeth Jardine, 20 Meadow Woods Road, Essex, CT, Assessor's Map 6 Lot 17, RU District, requesting variances to Sections 40C, 40D, 40E, and 61B, for placement of 4' X 8' shed 20 feet from the front property line where 40 feet is required.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim Furgueson, Chairman
4/29/2022 7200829

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
MIDDLETOWN PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
MAY 11, 2022
PUBLIC COMMENT MAY BE LIMITED TO FIVE MINUTES. PUBLIC IS ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS PRIOR TO THE PUBLIC HEARING.

1. Request for a re-subdivision to create 6 lots and a 35 acre open space parcel located at Talia's Trail, map-lot 10-0219 and Ridgewood Road, map-lot 10-0028 in the R-15 zone. Applicant/Agent: Sunwood Development Corporation. S2022-1

2. Request for a special exception for an educational use of the existing building located at 101 High Street in the R-15 zone. Applicant/Agent: Jim Cavallaro/University Network for Human Rights. SE2022-5

3. Petition for a zoning map amendment to rezone a 1.48 acre parcel having frontage on Main Street Extension from the Mixed Use (MX) zone to the Substance Abuse – Mental Health Floating (SMH) Zone located at 1 MacDonough Place (map-lot 24-0291). Applicant/Agent: David Giuffrida/Middlesex Hospital. Z2022-1

4. Request for a special exception for a behavioral health facility in an existing building located at 1 MacDonough Place (map-lot 24-0291) in the proposed SMH zone. Applicant/Agent: David Giuffrida/Middlesex Hospital. SE2022-4

Thomas Pattavina, Chair
Planning and Zoning Commission
4/29, 5/6/2022 7199310

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF KILLINGWORTH, CONNECTICUT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
SPORTS TURF MAINTENANCE SERVICES
Monday, April 25, 2022

The Town of Killingworth will receive sealed bids for Sports Turf Maintenance Services at the sites of Irene Sheldon Memorial Park (198 Route 80), Rocco M. Reale Memorial Field (Recycle Way – Route 81) and Bethke Field (Bethke Road) until 4 PM on Monday, May 23, 2022. Proposals will be opened in public and read aloud at a Board of Selectmen's meeting on Monday, May 23, 2022 at 7 PM.

The documents comprising the Request for Proposals may be obtained from Elizabeth Disbrow, Killingworth Town Hall, 323 Route 81, Killingworth CT 06419 during the hours of 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM Monday through Friday or on the Town's website, www.townofkillingworth.com, under "Town of Killingworth Public Notices."

The Town of Killingworth reserves the rights to amend or terminate this Request for Proposals, accept all or any part of a proposal, reject all proposals, waive any informalities or non-material deficiencies in a proposal, and award the proposal to the proposer that, in the Town's judgment, will be in the Town's best interests.

Dated at Killingworth, Connecticut this 26th day of April, 2022.

Nancy Gorski
FOR THE KILLINGWORTH BOARD OF SELECTMEN
4/29/22 7200135

LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF KILLINGWORTH
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
SPORTS TURF MAINTENANCE SERVICES
Monday, April 25, 2022

The Town of Killingworth will receive sealed proposals for Sports Turf Maintenance Services at ERIC W. AUER KILLINGWORTH RECREATIONAL PARK MULTI-PURPOSE ATHLETIC FIELDS, 13 Parker Hill Road Extension, Killingworth, CT until 4 PM on Monday, May 23, 2022. Proposals will be opened in public and read aloud at a Board of Selectmen's meeting on Monday, May 23, 2022 at 7 PM that evening.

The documents comprising the Request for Proposals may be obtained from Elizabeth Disbrow, Killingworth Town Hall, 323 Route 81, Killingworth CT 06419 during the hours of 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM Monday through Friday or on the Town's website, www.townofkillingworth.com, under "Town of Killingworth Public Notices."

The Town of Killingworth reserves the rights to amend or terminate this Request for Proposals, accept all or any part of a proposal, reject all proposals, waive any informalities or non-material deficiencies in a proposal, and award the proposal to the proposer that, in the Town's judgment, will be in the Town's best interests.

Dated at Killingworth, Connecticut this 26th day of April, 2022.

Nancy Gorski
FOR THE KILLINGWORTH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

4/29/22 7200073

WESTFIELD FIRE DISTRICT
of the City of Middletown
653 East Street
Middletown, CT 06457
Legal Notice

Call for the Budget Meeting and Commissioner Election of the Westfield Fire District of the City of Middletown

The budget meeting and Commission election of The Westfield Fire District will be held on May 10, 2022 at 8:00 PM. at The Westfield Fire Department, 653 East Street, Middletown, CT.

All inhabitants living within the limits of said Fire District for six months and qualified as electors of the City of Middletown are members of said Fire District and are eligible to vote. Voting by ballot will be held in person beginning at 12:00 p.m. and end at 8:00 p.m. Voters are required to show proof of identification.

The purpose of the meeting:

1. To adopt the proposed budget and set a mill rate for fiscal year July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

2. To elect three (3) Commissioners for a term of three (3) years beginning on May 11, 2022. Candidates applying for the position:
- William J. Balch
- Thaddeus Bysiewicz
- Nicole Carlone
- John Lockwood
- Douglas H. Turner
- Brian White

3. To transact any and all business, which may properly come before said meeting.

E. Gregory Amy
Chairman
The Westfield Fire District
of the City of Middletown
4/29/2022 7199868

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LIVING
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Film hits nerve with Asian American audiences

Yeoh draws praise in leading role as immigrant woman

By Terry Tang
Associated Press

Michelle Yeoh, left, and Jing Li in "Everything Everywhere All At Once." Yeoh describes the project as "an independent film on steroids." **ALLYSON RIGGS/A24**

Michelle Yeoh was adamant about one script change before committing to "Everything Everywhere All At Once." The main character's name had to go. She was named Michelle as a love letter to Yeoh from the directors.

"I'm like 'No, no, no,' because I believe this person, this character that you've written so rich, deserves a voice of her own. She is the voice of those mothers, aunties, grandmothers that you pass by in Chinatown or in the supermarket that you don't even give a second glance to. Then you just take her for granted," said Yeoh. "She's never had a voice."

At 59, Yeoh commands the lead of the genre-twisting flick by playing someone often invisible — the Asian immigrant wife and mother trying to be everything for everyone. "An independent film on steroids" as she puts it, "Everything Everywhere All At Once" recently went into wide theatrical release.

Yeoh's performance is drawing raves at a time when Asians and Asian Americans of all age ranges continue to be the target of pandemic-fueled racism in Chinatowns, cities and suburbs across the United States. But reports have found Asian women have experienced these hate crimes at a higher rate.

After decades first as a star in Hong Kong cinema and then more mainstream hits like "Tomorrow Never Dies" and "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon," the Malayasian-born Yeoh has grown into a movie queen. She has had integral roles in what have been the first large U.S. studio movies in years with all-Asian casts — Marvel Studios' "Shang-Chi and The Legend of The Ten Rings" and "Crazy Rich Asians."

"So much weight was on ('Crazy Rich Asians') ... What if we weren't as successful as that? Did that mean that we don't deserve to be up there?" Yeoh said. "It exploded, and the way it did made everyone realize, 'Hey, we've been neglecting this very major part of our society for so long.'"

As much as those films mean to her, she was a polished supporting player in them. "Everything Everywhere All At Once" is a whole otherworldly experience where she gets to play "an aging Asian woman."

Written and directed by Daniel Kwan and Daniel Scheinert (known as the Daniels), the story centers on a glammed down Yeoh as Evelyn Wang, a frazzled laundromat owner preparing for an IRS audit. Meanwhile, she is struggling with an unhappy husband (Ke Huy Quan), her critical father (James Hong) and an openly lesbian daughter (Stephanie Hsu). She is literally upended when another version of her husband pops up claiming to be from another universe. Evelyn ends up jumping through the multiverse and picking up skills possessed by her otherworldly counterparts.

The story is a wild laundry list of action, sci-fi, comedy and family drama that includes people with hot dogs for fingers and a giant everything bagel. The first word that came to Yeoh's mind after reading the script was "insane."

"I was blown away that they had the courage to write the script and put all these kinds of things. Because it wasn't just about the wackiness. The familial connections was so powerful," she said.

The movie puts the spotlight on the other actors as well. It marks a Hollywood homecoming for Quan. He charmed audiences as a child playing Short Round in "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom" and Data in "The Goonies." Funnily enough, "Crazy Rich Asians" is what made him want to return to the screen after more than 20 years. Yeoh is attached to the sequel and agreed it would be a great full-circle moment to find a role for Quan. "We are so grateful that (movie) made him think, because he never really left the film industry," Yeoh said.

Hong, 93, gets to chew plenty of scenery too. He made headlines in 2020 when famous friends successfully campaigned for him to get a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. He will receive the honor later this year.

"He's got a heart of gold. You know, he truly loves what he does," said Yeoh, who is reuniting with Hong on a new Disney+ series, "American Born Chinese." "He deserves it."

The film has hit a nerve with audiences but especially Asian Americans. Across social media, many describe crying during the film's last hour as the relationship between Evelyn and daughter Joy hits a make-or-break juncture. Some say they feel like they're watching their own immigrant mother become the hero of her story for the first time. Others say they've gained a better understanding about parents who typically don't wear their emotions on their sleeve.

"I think especially Asian parents, they tend to be more critical. But they show their love — they'll save you the best part of the meat, they'll make sure that you're well fed," Yeoh said. "That is their way of showing love and care."

For Asian American women, the movie is a breath of fresh air. Hate incidents like last year's Atlanta spa shootings renewed conversations about the propensity to sexualize or dismiss Asian women. But in this movie, Yeoh gets to show a wide range — from comedic and martial arts chops to heart-wrenching angst. The actor promises she will never give up on proving women can be the leads in parts that are more than stereotypes.

"Why is it men can get to a certain age and keep pushing forward with all these kinds of things and women sort of like get left behind?" Yeoh said. "With the new sustainable development goals, one of the things up there is gender equality, equal opportunities. And that's all what we're asking for."

CELEBRITIES

Baldwin shares fear of her heartbeat

From news services

Ireland Baldwin shared she suffers from cardiophobia on a recent "Red Table Talk" episode. **GREGG DEGUIRE/GETTY 2019**

Model Ireland Baldwin discussed her anxieties with Willow Smith on the most recent episode of "Red Table Talk" on Facebook Live.

"I suffer from cardiophobia. And you're like, 'What is that?'" Baldwin, 26, told Smith, 21, who admitted she didn't know. "I didn't know either until I did a lot of research for a very long time. I have a fear of my own heartbeat.

"When (my heartbeat) starts getting really fast, even when I'm nervous, even slightly nervous, or if I exercise or anything, I start panicking to the point where I'm convinced, no matter what anyone says, that I'm gonna have a heart attack."

At that point, she has to go to the hospital — and has done so more than 20 times so far. The doctor will "basically come in and tell me that my heart's fine and my health is great and that would be this huge release for me, this comfort," she said. "Seeing an EKG monitor tell me that my heart's OK."

As for what might have set off this particular phobia, Baldwin noted that when she was a kid, she saw a stranger have a heart attack at a restaurant. "That messed me up," she said. "I think that image never left my head, ever."

She also thinks her anxieties started during the ugly divorce of her parents, Kim Basinger and Alec Baldwin, when she was a toddler.

In the rest of Monday's "Red Table Talk" episode, Basinger joined the conversation with her daughter, along with Jada Pinkett Smith and Pinkett Smith's mother, Adrienne "Gammy" Banfield-Norris.

Scott announces festival performances: Travis Scott has announced his first public appearances since the Astroworld Festival last year, which resulted in the deaths of 10 concertgoers.

On Wednesday, Scott was announced as a headliner for a series of upcoming Primavera Sound festivals in South America. He'll first perform in Sao Paulo, Brazil, on Nov. 6 — a year and a day since the tragic events of Astroworld. He's slated to follow that up with performances in Argentina and Chile on Nov. 12 and 13.

Actor Tsang dies: Veteran Hong Kong actor Kenneth Tsang has died while in a COVID-19 quarantine hotel in the southern Chinese city, local media reported. Tsang was best known internationally for his action roles in the 2002 James Bond film "Die Another Day," John Woo's "The Killer" in 1989, "Rush Hour 2" in 2001 and 1998's "The Replacement Killers."

Tsang had been undergoing seven days of quarantine after returning from Singapore on Monday and was found collapsed in his hotel room Wednesday, according to the South China Morning Post and other media. The South China Morning Post said Tsang was 87 but other sources gave his age as 86.

No cause of death was given, and the paper said he had tested negative for the virus and had no underlying medical conditions.

April 29 birthdays: Singer Willie Nelson is 89. Singer Tommy James is 75. Comedian Jerry Seinfeld is 68. Actor Leslie Jordan is 67. Actor Kate Mulgrew is 67. Actor Daniel Day-Lewis is 65. Actor Michelle Pfeiffer is 64. Singer Carnie Wilson is 54. Actor Uma Thurman is 52. Rapper Master P is 52. Singer Erica Campbell is 50. Actor Megan Boone is 39.

ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson
askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

Brother requests family test before dinner

Dear Amy: My mom has invited me, my husband and our two teenagers to her home for a special occasion dinner.

Our household and my mom have all been vaccinated and boosted for COVID-19.

My brother, who does not live with our mom and has no underlying conditions, is also vaccinated and boosted, but wants us to take a rapid test before arriving (according to our mom).

I am disappointed that my brother has put our mom in the middle of this.

I have notified our mother that we will not take a rapid test, which we feel is totally unnecessary at this point in the pandemic. If this is a problem, we will stay home.

My husband agrees with me. Is my brother being unreasonable?

— Upset

Dear Upset: No, you are. Vaccinated people get and spread COVID-19 to other vaccinated people. And a person can have the virus in early stages and not be aware of it, something a rapid test would reveal.

As an elder, your mother might suffer worse symptoms than you would if she got the virus.

I recently attended a multiday event and took a rapid test each day, before attending any events with groups of people not in my own household.

During this period, I will also take a test and wear a mask outside the home if I have cold symptoms; this is to try to protect other people not in one's circle.

It is relatively easy to take an at-home test, and at this point in the pandemic — where a variant seems to be emerging — why refuse to do it?

Your mother might be relaying this message from your brother, but he is not the only person putting her in the middle of this — you are, too.

If you have a problem with his request, perhaps you should take it up directly with him. Once he explained his reasoning, it might make more sense to you, and then you might be willing to do a very simple thing — if only for another person's peace of mind.

Dear Amy: I met my boyfriend shortly after separating from my husband of 24 years. The marriage was good for many years, producing two sons who I love dearly. Eventually I discovered that my husband was living a double life — he's gay and had homosexual affairs during our marriage. I left the marriage.

My current boyfriend and I have been together for eight years. The last two years haven't been good. He is hot-tempered, controlling and very disrespectful.

For the last eight months, he has gone over to our next-door neighbor's house — every single day, eight or nine times a day. It's become a huge problem between us. He says I'm trying to control him.

The neighbor is 41, unemployed and spends all of his time smoking pot and playing video games.

I don't want to be in a relationship where I'm disrespected, dismissed and set up on a shelf until he's ready for me.

I'm ready to leave. I've tried talking with him, but he's only interested in pointing fingers at me. He suggested that we go to couple's counseling, but I said that unless he's willing to discuss his issues, counseling won't work.

He wants to do what he wants, when he wants and with whom he wants. It sounds like he wants to live as a single man!

What's your take on this?

— Fed Up

Dear Fed Up: My take: All of us want what we want when we want it. That includes you.

It does seem controlling for you to declare that therapy "won't work" unless it follows a path you dictate. On the other hand, given your history, your guy's behavior would trigger your own sense of loss.

Your relationship has broken down. Maybe your guy should move in with his neighbor.

Dear Amy: "Sad" wrote to you about her friend who had an elderly failing pet, but is unable to let go.

Years ago, I saw on a TV show something that has stuck with me. If your pet is suffering, please remember that saying goodbye and releasing him or her from pain is the ultimate act of love.

— Been There

Dear Been There: This end-of-life responsibility is the highest and most challenging calling for humans who love their pets.

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Cage wrestles with his exaggerated mythology

Star satirizes perceptions of self but also acts out those personas sincerely in film

By Jake Coyle
Associated Press

"Metropolis." Bruce Lee. Woody Woodpecker. A pet cobra. All of these things have been inspirations behind Nicolas Cage performances — sometimes private homages that the actor has used like blueprints to build some of his most exaggerated, erratic and affecting characters.

A conversation with Cage, likewise, pulls from a wide gamut of sources. In a recent and wide-ranging interview ahead of the release of "The Unbearable Weight of Massive Talent," Cage touched on Picasso, Elia Kazan, Timothee Chalamet and Francis Bacon. A book of interviews with Bacon, "The Brutality of Fact," for instance, helped Cage define his attraction to intense, even grotesque performance — "that which is not obviously beautiful," he says — rather than naturalism.

"And I've kind of approached my public perception, as well as the way I design my film work, as an actor with that concept in mind — to not be afraid to be ugly in behavior or even in appearance," says Cage, 58. "To create a kind of taste that you have to discover."

With more than 100 films, Cage — an Oscar winner ("Leaving Las Vegas"), an action star ("Con Air") and the source of internet memes for his most theatrical moments in films like "Face/Off" — has long been one of the most particular tastes in movies. Yet by being "an amateur surrealist," as he refers to himself, Cage has emerged — even after resorting to a string of VOD releases to pay off back taxes and get himself out of debt — as one of Hollywood's most widely loved stars. As "Unbearable Weight" director Tom Gormican says, "the sight of his face sort of makes people happy."

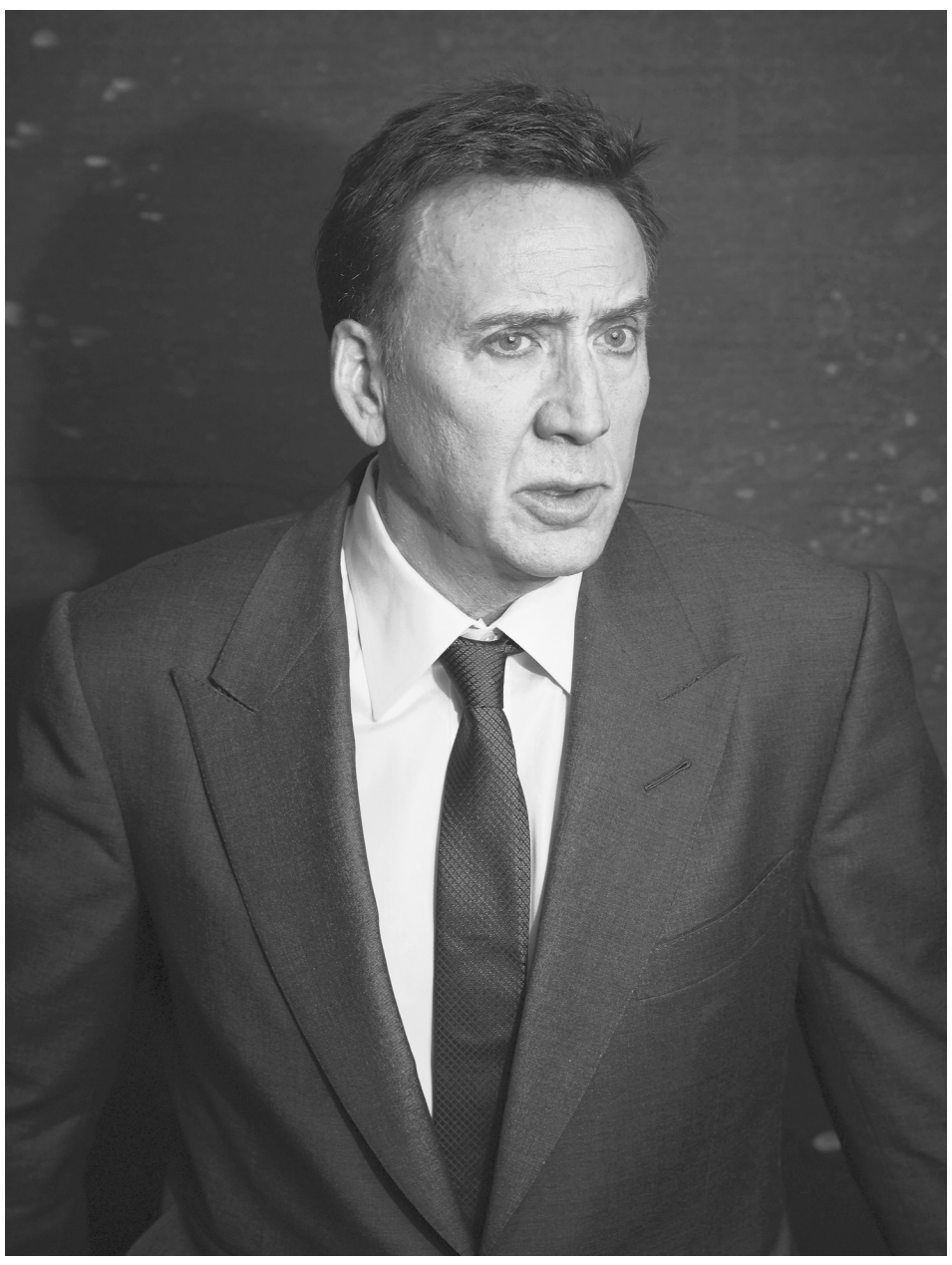
But for even the mercurial Cage, "The Unbearable Weight of Massive Talent," now playing in theaters, represents something different. In it, Cage plays himself. Or, rather, he plays a fun-house mirror version of himself that sometimes interacts with a younger version of himself. The movie is one big homage to Cage in which the actor somehow manages to both satirize perceptions of himself and act out those personas sincerely.

"The through line that's always been there for me: No matter what I designed, and it has been a design whether it's ridiculous — and it's often ridiculous — or whether it's sublime, it has to be informed with genuine emotional content," says Cage.

"No matter how broad or what some folk like to call over the top, it had genuine feeling." But what to Cage constitutes over the top? This is the actor who, channeling Nosferatu in "Vampire's Kiss," gave one of the most bonkers recitals of the alphabet ever heard. He's fond of answering: "Well, show me where the top is, and I'll tell you if I'm over it."

"I grew up in a house where my mom would do things that if you put it in a movie, you would say that was over the top," says Cage, whose mother, Joy Coppola, was a dancer and choreographer. His father, August Coppola, brother of Francis, was a professor of literature. "But what is the top? When you want to design something and you think about different styles — naturalism, impressionism, surrealism, abstract — then you start to look at it in a different way. It's not going to be for everybody, and it's not necessarily going to sell tickets. But that's OK."

But what's unusual about Cage is that many of those experiments have sold tickets. A lot of them. Cage's films account for nearly $5 billion in worldwide box office. Still, it has been a while since he was front-and-center in a major studio film.



Actor Nicolas Cage, who is seen April 9 in New York, plays a fun-house mirror version of himself in Tom Gormican's film "The Unbearable Weight of Massive Talent." **TAYLOR JEWELL/INVISION**

"The Unbearable Weight of Massive Talent" allows him to play around with the notion of a comeback. In the film, he's desperate to score better parts than the birthday party he has been offered $1 million to attend. The movie was an opportunity to wrestle — usually comically, sometimes physically — with his own exaggerated mythology.

Gormican was turned down several times by Cage before a heartfelt letter finally convinced the actor to make the film. The issue was that Cage, even at his most outlandish, has never put quotation marks around his performances. He tends to invest fully in even the most unhinged characters. Cage initially feared Gormican's film would be self-mocking parody, and while it has those elements, Cage steers it in more unpredictable directions.

But the actor does reach some gonzo heights in the film. After one scene, Gormican was honored to hear Cage say: "That was the Full Cage. You got the Full Cage." Another scene features the two Cages making out, after which the younger exclaims, "Nick Cage smooches good!"

Cage's exotic tastes — he once had to return a dinosaur skull he purchased that had been stolen from Mongolia — have contributed to his legend. But he insists that he is normal in his life so that he can be extreme in his work — and that some of his self-promotion was itself an act.

Cage last year married Riko Shibata, his fifth wife, and they are expecting a child. (Cage also has two grown sons; a sticking point in "Unbearable Weight" was that he not be shown as an absentee father — one fiction Cage wouldn't permit.) After an unusually introspective press tour for the film, Cage is looking forward to returning to the desert outside Las Vegas, where he lives.

But "The Unbearable Weight of Massive Talent" wraps a chapter for the actor. He's finally out of the red after making some 30 video-on-demand films over the last decade to pay off the IRS and his creditors. He makes no apologies for those films. They made him a better actor, he says.

"I was practicing. I managed to keep my access to my imagination at my fingertips. It was a much better way for me to get this financial crisis off my back than doing something like a Super Bowl commercial — and believe me they offered," says Cage. "That was also a point for me, that I'm not a salesman, I'm an actor."

Having started professionally at 15, Cage has been doing this a long time. To him, his path began, appropriately enough, with an audacious performance.

Cage's father, the actor says, had a massive influence on him, exposing him to books, early films and paintings. But he could cut his son down with words.

"And I just wasn't going to take it," says Cage. "I knew that he thought more of me than he let on. I tricked him once, and I did something that I've never done ever again. I lied. I said, 'Dad, I wrote this song.' And I played him Joe Jackson's 'Is She Really Going Out With Him?' And he believed me. He said, 'Wow, Nicky, that's incredible.' Then I got the positive affirmation that I needed to believe in myself. That was the one time a lie saved me."

Wagner Moura and Elisabeth Moss in "Shining Girls." **APPLE TV+**

Scripts made it impossible for Moss not to do 'Shining Girls'

By Alicia Rancilio
Associated Press

She navigated a 1960s advertising agency boys club on "Mad Men," leads the charge against a totalitarian regime on "The Handmaid's Tale" and fought back against an abusive partner in the 2020 movie "The Invisible Man." Based on her career choices, it makes sense to want to seek out Elisabeth Moss if things go south.

"That's a big compliment," said Moss recently of the notion that she's desirable for a fantasy foxhole. "With the characters I play, it's always my intention to show how badass an everyday person can be. I want people to feel like, 'Oh, I could be that person. I would do that.' Or, 'I would hope I would react in that way.' I like the idea of playing everyday superheroes because I think that we all have kind of a superhero inside of us."

Battling the bad guy isn't easy, though. In her new series "Shining Girls" now streaming in Apple TV+, Moss has her work cut out for her. She plays Kirby, a newspaper archivist in 1990s Chicago who is haunted and taunted by a serial killer (Jamie Bell) named Harper, who is always steps ahead of his victims and the authorities. Part of what makes the show gripping to watch is that it seems impossible to stop him.

Moss, who is an executive producer on the series and also directed two episodes, said of Bell, "I know I'm probably biased, but I really think this is the best thing he's ever done. He astounded us every day."

Harper is so confident that he approaches his prey with swagger. Moss says it's that charisma that sells the character.

"Our intention was to find somebody who was not mustache-twirling, who was not your classic villain. This is romantic. That approach is far scarier than playing something straight-up creepy."

Bell says he was drawn to the project because it gave him both the opportunity to play someone different from his past roles ("Billy Elliott," "Rocketman") and work with Moss, who he describes as "the best actress working today."

For Moss, the scripts made it impossible for her to say no.

"I wasn't looking for another TV role, but it was one of those things where I was like, 'I don't think I can not do this.' I try to find things that I feel like I can't not do."

The real challenge, says Moss, was the disorientation of filming a series that constantly shifts its reality. Kirby is so traumatized by Harper that she's disoriented about time and always playing catch-up in her own life.

"I had to definitely remind myself of what I knew and what I didn't know in the story at that point. It was about 100 times more complicated to shoot this out of order than anything else I've ever done."

At the end of a work day Moss opts to watch lighter fare, "I don't come home from filming and watch super-serious stuff. I don't think that would be a good idea."

But don't expect Moss to sign up for a rom-com or straight up comedy anytime soon.

"As an actor and a director, I'm much more interested in drama. I have more fun doing drama."

HOROSCOPES

Tarot.com

Aries (March 21-April 19): Tweaking your image to please someone might sound appealing. Your image may be holding you back, as your ego influences you to be untrue to yourself. Peer pressure could get to you, but embrace the real you instead of living a lie.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Turning a blind eye to unpleasant things is easier today. Something that you learn could be unpleasant, and denying it will be tempting. Embrace the information that you learn. If you ignore it, you'll end up wishing that you had listened to the experience and wisdom of others.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): Your vulnerability could be challenged today. You may not trust others, and you might want to start thinking about opening up a little bit more. If you never trust others with your feelings, they may think that you're all logic. Make an effort to create a stronger bond with someone.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Someone could be challenging your image. Your truth is your truth, regardless of what they try to paint for you, and you can't control what people think of you. You can show them who you really are, but if they refuse to see it, there's nothing you can do except move on.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): You may not be interested in details today. Someone might be trying to alert you to an issue. You could be so focused on the bigger picture that you're not seeing the smaller signs. Hear them out, even if you don't understand what they're trying to say at first. It could end up saving you a headache.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Worries about risk could be swamping you right now! You may have begun by jumping into a situation, thinking you knew what to expect, but now you don't fully understand. It's not something you can easily back out of. Dedication will help you see issues through to the end.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): A relationship may be unbalanced. All relationships can be affected by this energy. One of you might be putting in far more effort, creating a stressful dynamic. Make sure that burdens are shared, so that you don't wonder how one of you ended up exhausted with the other.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Lackluster energy might be dragging your day down. You're likely craving an escape from day-to-day activities. You could have piled on obligations, and it may be too much for one person to handle. Seeking assistance or cutting back your duties could be in your best interest.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Dramatic emotions could shake your personal foundation today. Someone who provokes you could make any topic overwhelming. They're trying to get you to their level so they can get one over on you. Staying calm shows you're in control of your emotions and that you can keep a cool head.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You could hurt your own feelings today. You look critically at yourself. Your opinion will likely skew negative, and you might not be seeing yourself clearly. Remembering times you overcame adversity or did something to help someone can restore faith in yourself.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Exaggerating could cause consequences for you today. You may feel more outspoken, which is likely to affect how you communicate. Giving an account that falls short of the truth could create issues for you, so it's best to try and tell people about your life without any hyperbole.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Your self-worth may be challenged by others. People could cause you to doubt yourself and wonder if your contribution is worth as much as everyone else's. They might be jealous of the success that you've had or trying to prevent you from reaching their level.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Associated Press

On April 29, 1945, during World War II, American soldiers liberated the Dachau concentration camp.

In 1946, 28 former Japanese officials went on trial in Tokyo as war criminals; seven ended up being sentenced to death.

In 1967, Aretha Franklin's cover of Otis Redding's "Respect" was released.

In 1991, a cyclone began striking Bangladesh; it ended up killing more than 138,000 people, according to the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

In 1992, a jury in Simi Valley, California, acquitted four Los Angeles police officers of almost all state charges in the videotaped beating of Rodney King; the verdicts were followed by rioting in Los Angeles resulting in 55 deaths.

In 2011, Britain's Prince William and Kate Middleton were married at London's Westminster Abbey.

BONUS PUZZLE PAGE

An extra array of word games, search and Jumble. Want more? Play online at ***PlayJumble.com***

Scan QR code to play online.

SUDOKU

		4	7			6		1
	9							
			9		6	4		
	6	7				9		4
		8		1		7		
3		1				5	6	
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1		6			3	2		

Level: 1 **2** 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit *www.sudoku.org.uk.*

8	3	4	7	2	5	6	9	1
6	9	2	8	4	1	3	5	7
7	1	5	9	3	6	4	8	2
2	6	7	3	5	8	9	1	4
9	5	8	6	1	4	7	2	3
3	4	1	2	7	9	5	6	8
5	8	3	4	9	2	1	7	6
4	2	9	1	6	7	8	3	5
1	7	6	5	8	3	2	4	9

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8/12/17

BOGGLE

Boggle® BrainBusters!™

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

N	I	S	I
U	T	A	L
R	I	B	Y
L	K	E	N

INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words.

BOGGLE® POINT SCALE	YOUR BOGGLE® RATING
3 letters = 1 point	151+ = Champ
4 letters = 2 points	101-150 = Expert
5 letters = 3 points	61-100 = Pro
6 letters = 4 points	31 - 60 = Gamer
7 letters = 6 points	21 - 30 = Rookie
8 letters = 10 points	11 - 20 = Amateur
9+ letters = 15 points	0 - 10 = Try again

Boggle® BrainBusters Bonus

We put special brain-busting words into the grid of letters. Can you find them?

Find AT LEAST FIVE COUNTRIES in the grid of letters.

_____

_____

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ITALY KENYA LIBYA TURKEY TUNISIA

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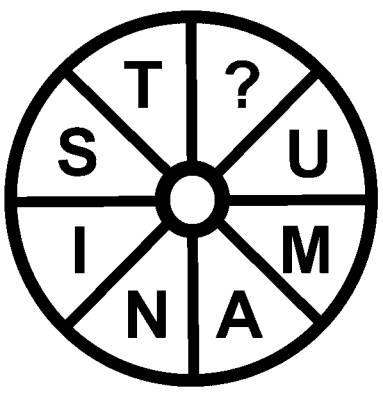
2-5-20

www.bogglebrainbusters.com

WordWheel



Insert the missing letter to complete an eight-letter word reading clockwise or counterclockwise.

HUMANIST

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2/9

WORD SEARCH

Wordsearch: write away

356

Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, or diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.

R	O	M	A	N	C	E	L	E	S	U	S	P	E	N	S	E	P
Y	Y	R	E	T	S	Y	M	D	L	R	E	A	D	E	R	P	Q
P	A	P	E	R	B	A	C	K	E	B	N	R	E	T	S	E	W
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ADVENTURE	FICTION	PROSE	STORY
AUTHOR	FLYLEAF	PUBLISH	SUSPENSE
BOOK	GOTHIC	READER	TALE
CHAPTER	HERO	ROMANCE	TEXT
COPYRIGHT	HISTORICAL	SAGA	TOME
COVER	LEGEND	SCENARIO	TRAVEL
DETECTIVE	LOVE	SCI-FI	TYPE
DRAMA	MYSTERY	SCRIBE	WESTERN
EDITION	PAGES	SEQUEL	WHODUNNIT
EPIC	PAPERBACK	SERIES	WORDS
FABLE	PLOT	SPINE	WRITER

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write away

R	O	M	A	N	C	E	L	E	S	U	S	P	E	N	S	E	P
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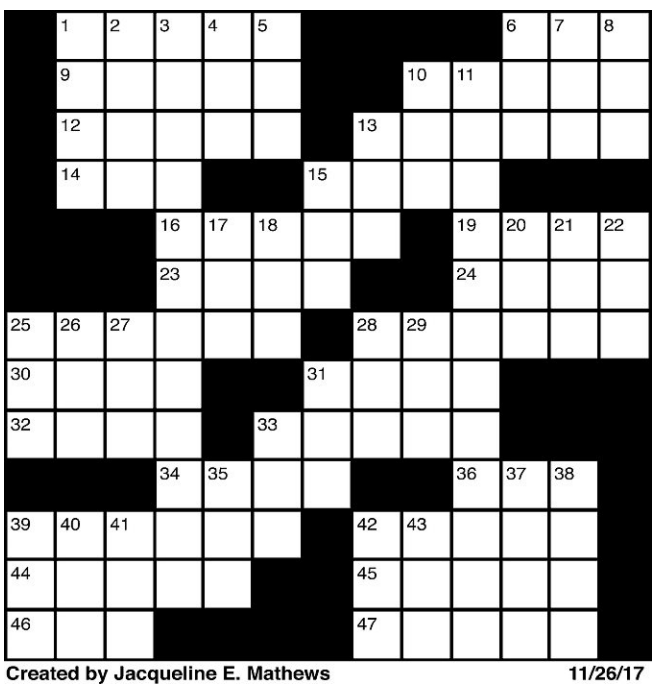
TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 11/26/17

ACROSS
1 Davis or Midler
6 "One Day __ Time"
9 "Let's Make __"
10 Jack __ Grazer of "Me, Myself and I"
12 Actress Laura __
13 Instrument for Jack Benny
14 Boy
15 In __ of; as a substitute for
16 Actor John of "The Addams Family"
19 World's longest river
23 Strong urges
24 Got bigger
25 "77 __ Strip"
28 Long-running series about a dog
30 Actor Morales
31 Series for Jamie Farr
32 "__ Wolf"; popular MTV Tyler Posey series
33 Anne __ of "The Brave"
34 "Now and __"; Demi Moore film
36 Monogram for the author of "Little Women"
39 "How I Met Your __"
42 Green gems
44 Steve or Tim
45 Comment from a frog
46 Holiday month: abbr.
47 Actor Sean and his family

DOWN
1 Arrestee's hope
2 Poet __ St. Vincent Millay
3 "__ Valley"; new series for Kyra Sedgwick
4 Edison's monogram
5 Golfer Ernie
6 "__ in the Family"
7 Skater Babilonia
8 __ Perkins; Rashida Jones' role on "Parks and Recreation"
10 "__ Hard"; movie for Bruce Willis
11 New series for Iain Armitage
13 Actor Diesel
15 Fleur-de-__
17 "We're off to __ the Wizard..."
18 Explosive letters
20 Tax-collecting agcy.
21 Neckwear for Don Ho
22 Lamb's mother
25 __ up; arrange
26 Take advantage of
27 Scottish refusal
28 Fond du __, Wisconsin
29 Bit of sooty residue
31 "__ in Trees"
33 "Hannah and __ Sisters"; Mia Farrow movie
35 Egg layer
37 "__ Girls"; Lindsay Lohan film
38 Invites
39 "__ About You"
40 "Grand __ Opry"
41 "Little People, Big World" network
42 Monogram for department store founder Penney
43 "People __ Funny"

12/3/17

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S	C	A	T	S		E		N		K	A	Y		
	O		F		D	W	E	L	T		N			
	R	H	O	D	A		F			B	O	T		
	P	O	L		W	C	F	I	E	L	D	S		
A	S	T	I		N	E	S	S		V	E	G		
		S	O	U	S	E		H	A	D	S	T		

B	O	Y	F	R	I	E	N	D

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

PERAO

NETVE

FHIRTT

LOWBEB

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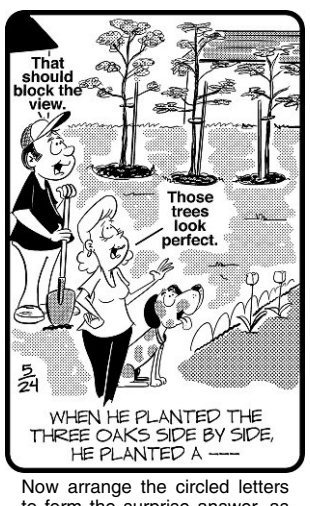


Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app

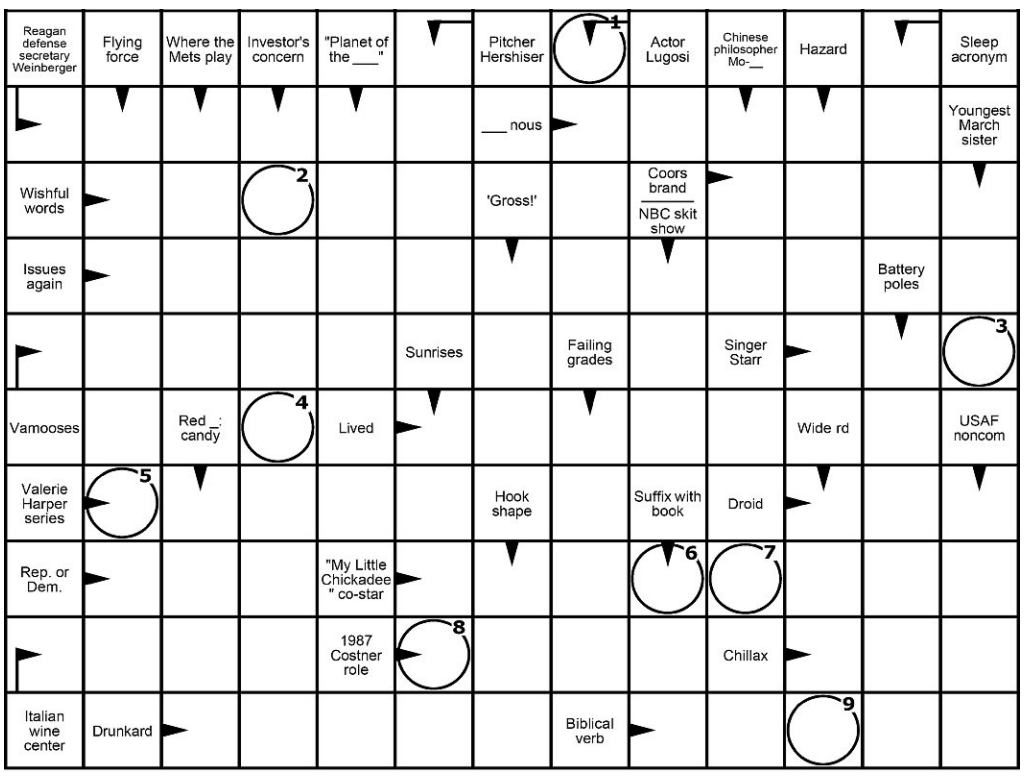
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print your answer here: "○○○○○ - ○"

Jumbles: OPERA EVENT THRIFT WOBBLE
Answer: When he planted the three oaks side by side, he planted a — "TREE-O"

ARROW WORDS

Fill in the grid using the clues provided in the direction of the arrows. When complete, unscramble the letters in the circles to reveal a mystery word.



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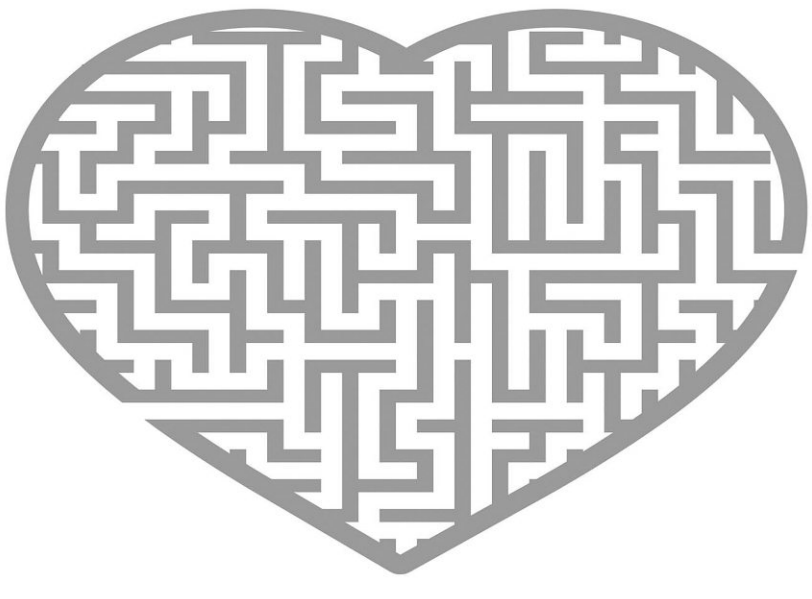
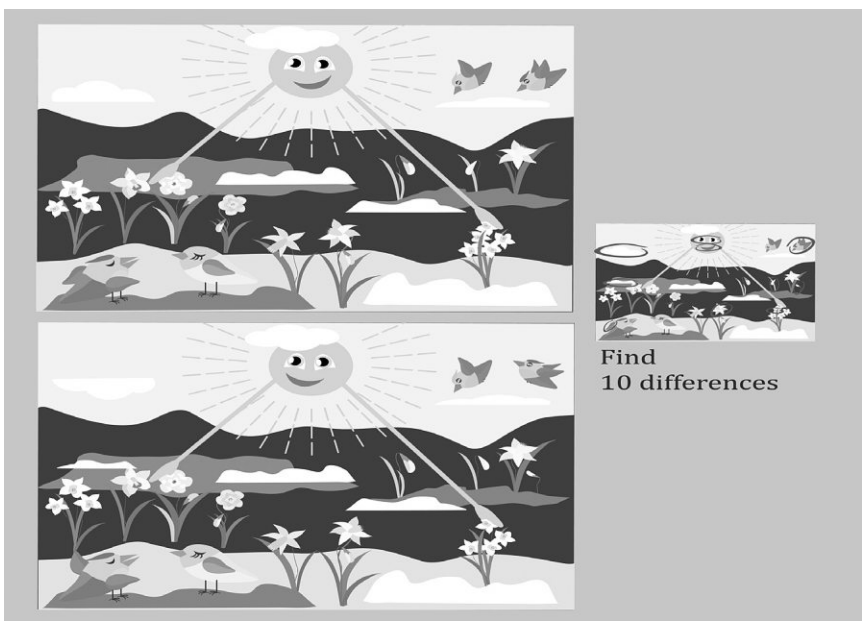
11/15/20

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

KIDNEWS FUN & GAMES

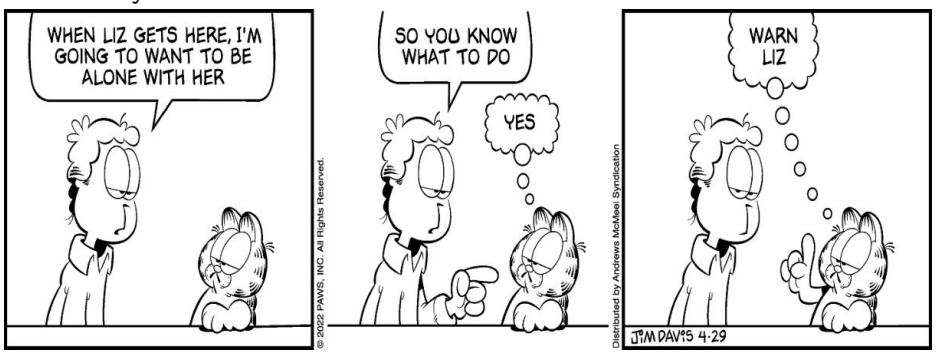




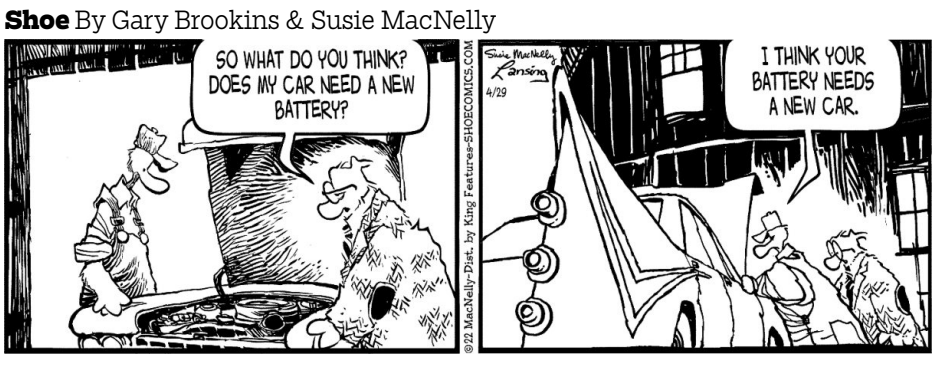
Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz

Classic Doonesbury By Garry Trudeau

Garfield By Jim Davis

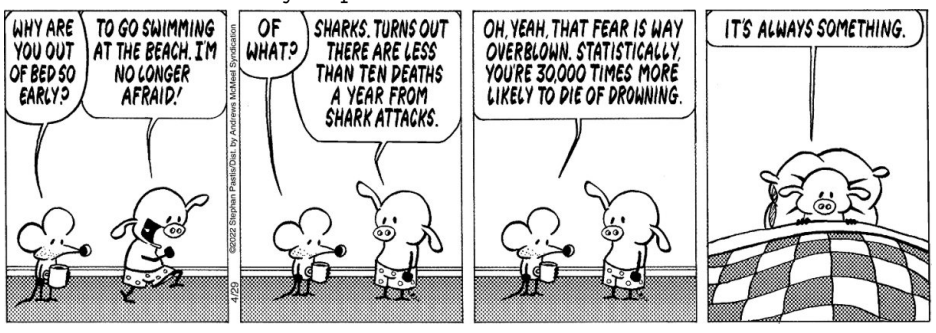


Shoe By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



Dustin By Steve Kelley & Jeff Parker

Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis



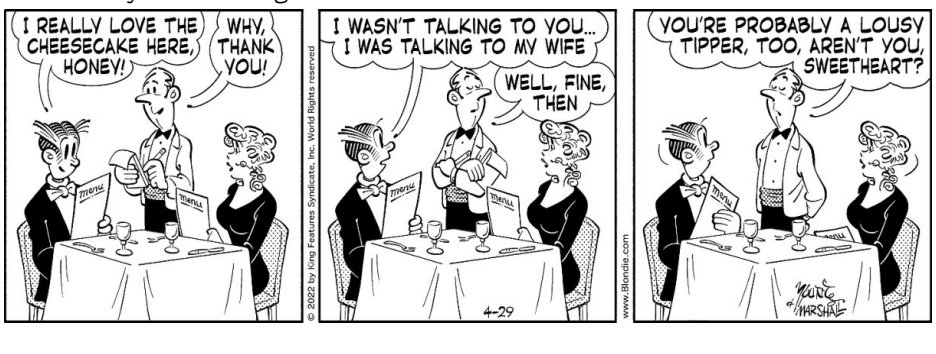
Mutts By Patrick McDonnell

Arctic Circle By Alex Hallatt

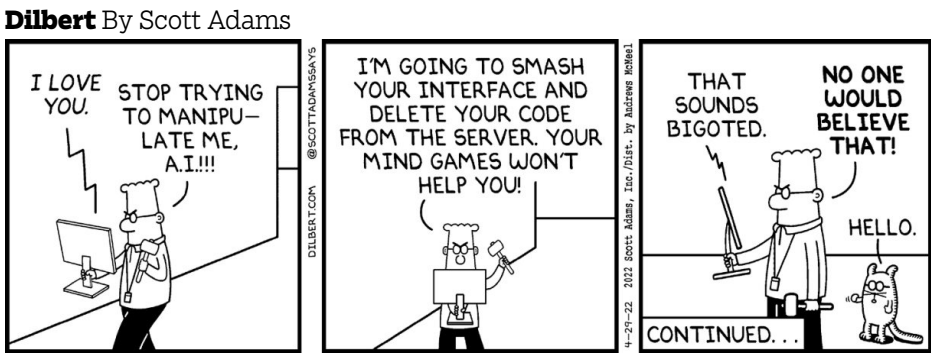
Jump Start By Robb Armstrong

Get Fuzzy By Darby Conley

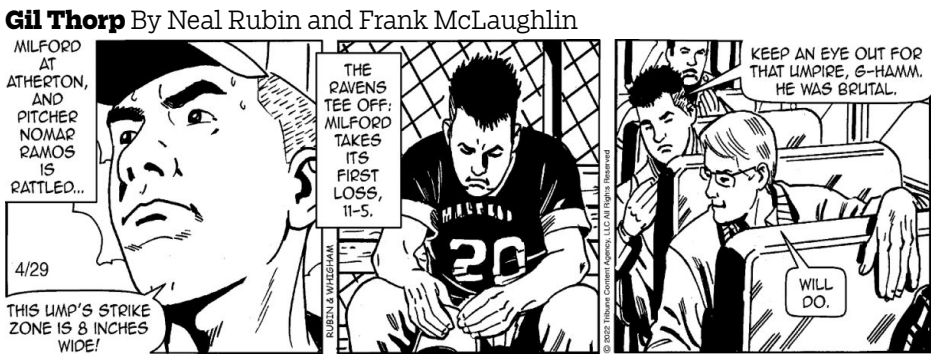
Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall



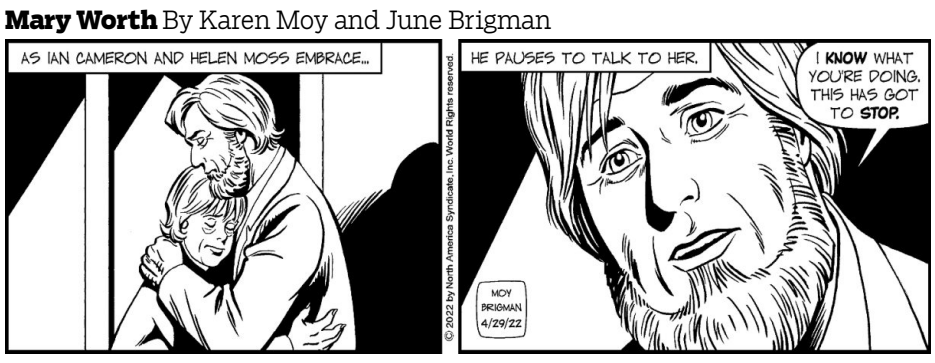
Dilbert By Scott Adams



Gil Thorp By Neal Rubin and Frank McLaughlin

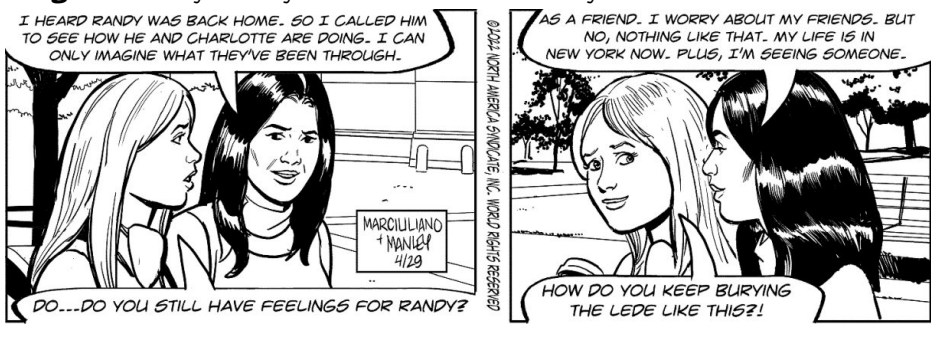


Mary Worth By Karen Moy and June Brigman

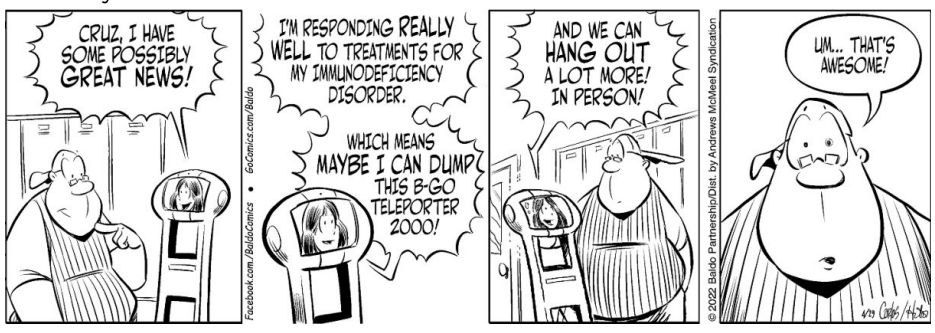


Rex Morgan, M.D. By Terry Beatty

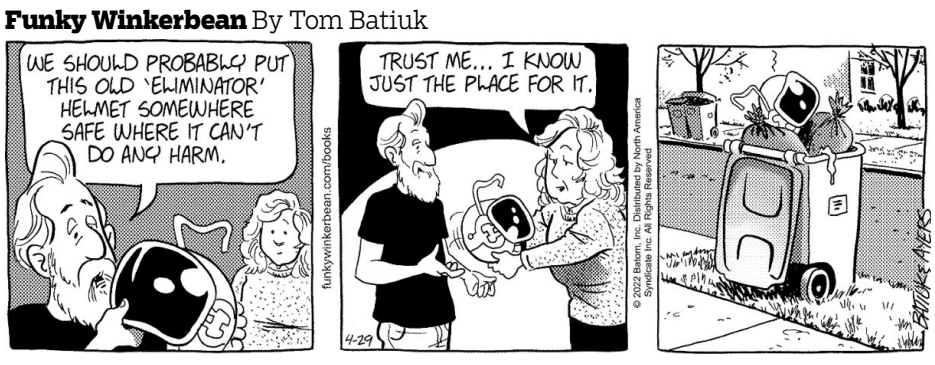
Judge Parker By Woody Wilson and Mike Manley



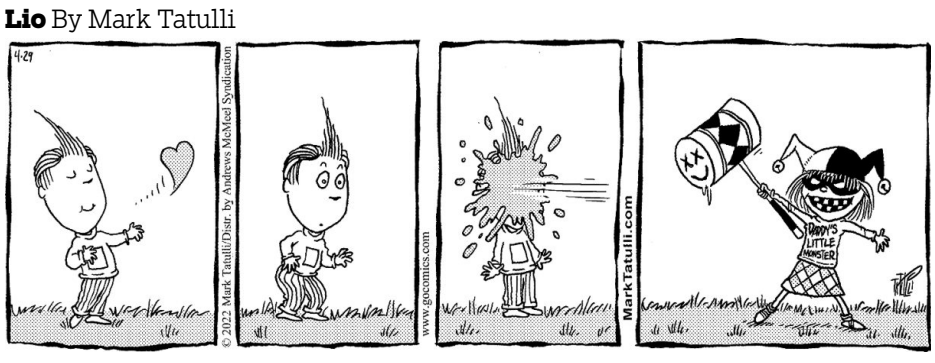
Baldo By Cantu and Castellanos



Funky Winkerbean By Tom Batiuk



Lio By Mark Tatulli

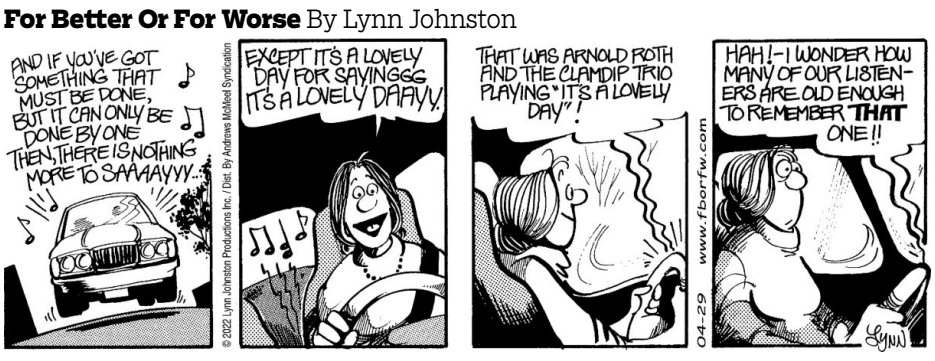


Wizard Of Id By Johnny Hart and Brant Parker

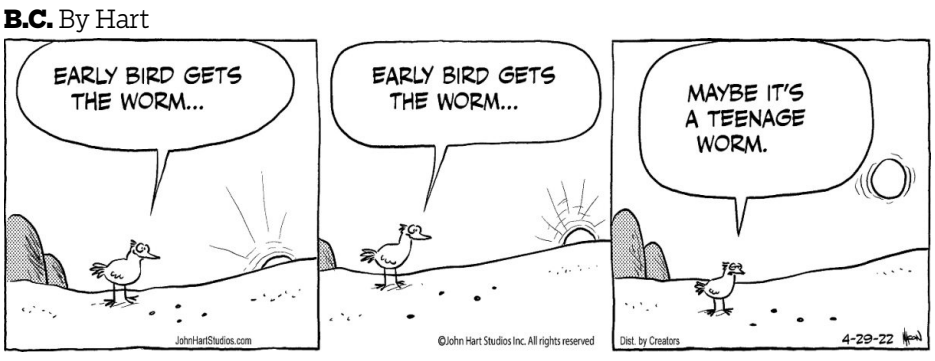
Rhymes With Orange By Hilary Price

Monty By Jim Meddick

For Better Or For Worse By Lynn Johnston



B.C. By Hart



Beetle Bailey by Mort, Greg & Brian Walker

Hi & Lois By Greg and Brian Walker and Chance Browne

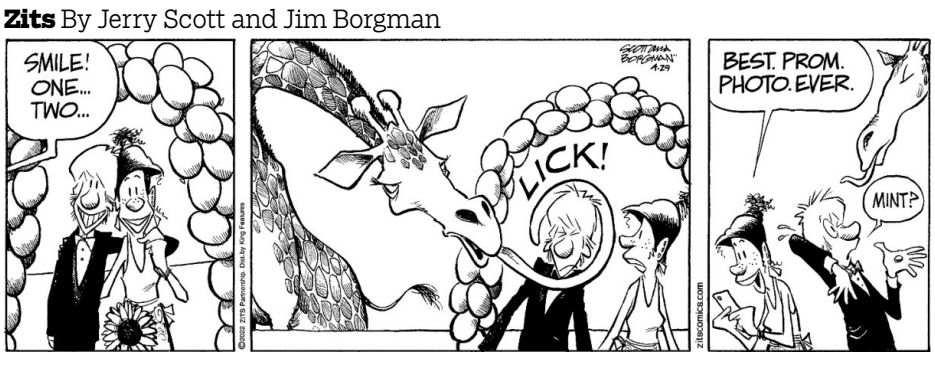
Hagar The Horrible By Chris Browne

Non Sequitur By Wiley Miller

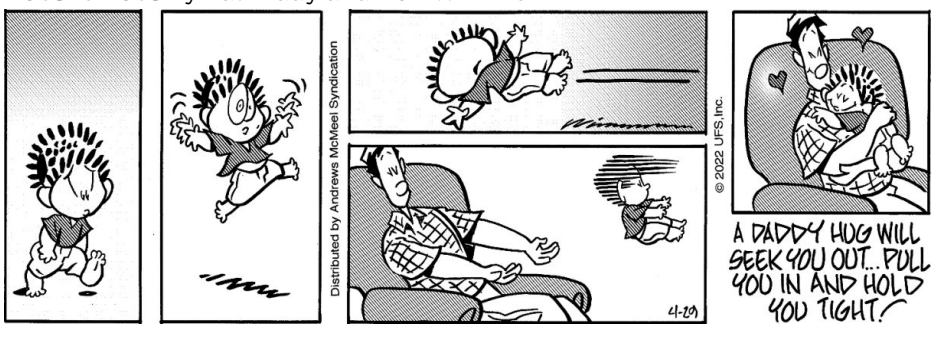
Curtis By Ray Billingsley

Pickles By Brian Crane

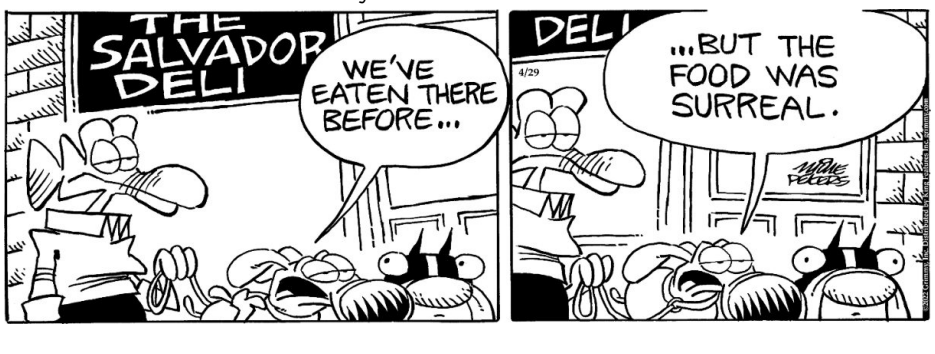
Zits By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman



Rose Is Rose By Pat Brady and Don Wimmer



Mother Goose And Grimm By Mike Peters



CROSSWORD

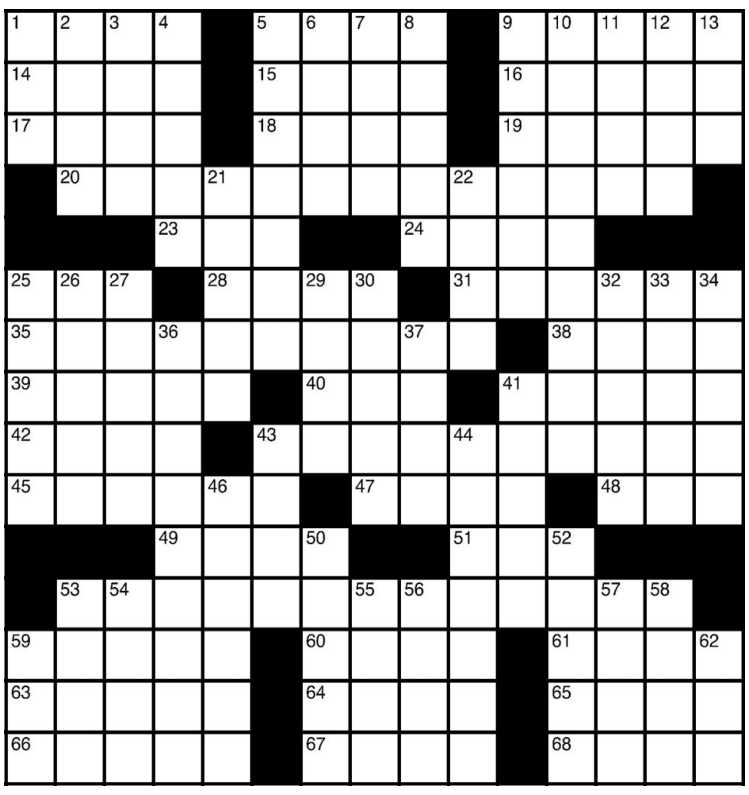
EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

Across

1 Swedish pop group with the 2021 album "Voyage"
5 Gels
9 Manhattan Project project, briefly
14 Moved smoothly
15 Country that outlawed alcohol in 1979
16 Home of the world's tallest building
17 Throw hard
18 Disney title character from Hawaii
19 Like cellared wine
20 Group of apartments made of gingerbread?
23 Fall for
24 Convention giveaway
25 Card game with a Pixar version
28 Worship leader
31 Trio for Bergman and Streep
35 Gang made up of very light eaters?
38 Keep hidden, perhaps
39 Skirt
40 Letter from ancient Troy
41 "Three Tall Women" playwright
42 __ chic
43 Logo designer's day-to-day existence?
45 Like some jokes
47 "__ it obvious?"
48 Hard-to-prove skill
49 Soft ball
51 Toon spinner
53 Cute, furry problem for Captain Kirk?
59 Roadster since 1989
60 Part of a plot
61 Tarot's swords, e.g.
63 Heavy metal bar
64 Crypto.com Arena statue honoree, familiarly
65 Corner
66 Brownish gray
67 Folk singer Axton
68 Simple cat toy

Down

1 2022 Australian Open winner Barty, familiarly
2 Bummed out
3 Jay or oriole
4 Surprise the director, maybe
5 "Wow, I am dumb!"
6 Empire State county
7 Puff stuff
8 Elitist
9 Rolls with the punches
10 Taps, say
11 Tony's cousin
12 Tailless pet
13 Not insignificant
21 Complete a LEGO set
22 Synthesizer pioneer
25 Kabayaki fish
26 Bond player in the original "Casino Royale"
27 Yamaha products
29 Pretentious
30 Heat setting?
32 "Three Billboards ... " actress Cornish
33 Sailing hazards
34 Quite expensive
36 Two-piece piece
37 Remnants in a crayon box
41 Sacred stand
43 Tesla, e.g.
44 Hush-hush
46 Pre-election event
50 Superhero who taps into the Speed Force
52 Hot
53 Mother of Beyoncé and Solange Knowles
54 Trattoria sauce
55 Unoriginal reply
56 DVD holder
57 Special glow
58 Management level
59 I.M. Pei's alma mater
62 Score half



By Ryan Hecht and Doug Peterson — Tribune Content Agency 4/29/22

BRIDGE

BY STEVE BECKER

Bidding Quiz

You are South and the bidding has gone:

North	East	South	West
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
1 NT	Pass	?	

What would you bid now with each of the following five hands?

1. ♠ K95 ♥ AK763 ♦ Q8 ♣ J62
2. ♠ 72 ♥ AQJ84 ♦ Q963 ♣ KJ
3. ♠ KJ5 ♥ QJ753 ♦ 72 ♣ K64
4. ♠ KJ96 ♥ Q632 ♦ 10 ♣ AK95
5. ♠ 843 ♥ Q9542 ♦ 5 ♣ AJ84

* * *

1. Three notrump. Basically, this is an application of the principle that an opening bid facing an opening bid means game. It would be wrong to bid only two notrump, inviting game, as partner might pass. There may be some temptation to rebid your hearts, but since two hearts would be a signoff and three hearts invitational, as most now play it, three notrump is best.

2. Three diamonds. Here you can't tell whether the best contract lies in hearts, diamonds or notrump, so you jump to three diamonds (forcing), compelling partner to make the choice. You plan to bid four hearts if he bids three hearts, five diamonds if he bids four diamonds, and to pass if he bids three notrump.

3. Pass. There is little chance for a game, as your partner's notrump rebid should indicate 13 or 14 high-card points, and might be as little as 12. Two hearts could turn out to be a better contract, but one notrump will prove safer in the long run.

4. Three notrump. Hands with 4-4-4-1 distribution usually play better in a suit, but here there's not much chance of finding a better game contract than notrump. Partner has at most three hearts, since he failed to raise your suit, so game in hearts is pretty much out of the question. He is also not likely to hold four spades, since he would have bid that suit rather than one notrump at his second turn. As game must be reached, three notrump is the only reasonable choice.

5. Two clubs. With only seven high-card points and 5-4-3-1 distribution, a suit contract on the two-level will probably prove better than one notrump. Notrump is usually more dangerous than a suit contract when the high-card values are about evenly divided between the two sides.

Note that two clubs is not forcing, even though responder is naming a new suit. This is because partner limited his values by rebidding one notrump. With game-going strength and the same distribution, you would have to jump to three clubs to compel a rebid by partner.

Partner is expected either to pass two clubs or bid two hearts, depending on which of the two suits he prefers.

Tomorrow: Choosing among alternatives.

JUMBLE

BY DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

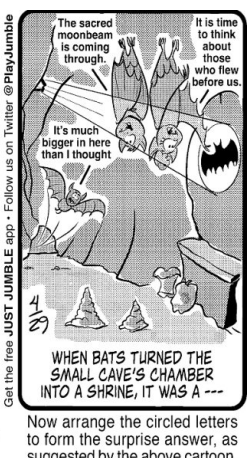
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LIHEW

OWSNO

CLEALO

LDHUED



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

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Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: PANIC CARGO PULPIT LOUNGE
Answer: Talking about what type of job she'd eventually have was becoming her — PREOCCUPATION

TODAY'S SUDOKU

			7	9				
		1	3		5			
	4				6		7	8
3						5		9
	1						3	
5		4						7
8	3		4				9	
			9			6		4
				6	2			

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit **www.sudoku.org.uk**

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

1	4	9	2	3	7	8	5	6
6	2	5	4	8	9	1	7	3
8	3	7	1	5	6	2	9	4
4	8	3	5	9	2	7	6	1
5	1	2	7	6	4	3	8	9
9	7	6	3	1	8	5	4	2
3	6	1	9	7	5	4	2	8
2	5	8	6	4	3	9	1	7
7	9	4	8	2	1	6	3	5

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS CROSSWORD PUZZLE

P	O	L	E		F	A	C	T	O		J	A	R	S
E	V	E	R		B	R	A	I	N		E	T	A	T
N	E	G	O	T	I	A	B	L	E		D	O	N	E
	N	A	D	A		B	L	T		S	I	N	G	E
		L	E	S	L	I	E		U	P	K	E	E	P
E	L	F		T	I	C	K		F	U	N	D	S	
S	E	E	M	E	D		N	A	O	M	I			
L	I	E	U		S	T	I	R		E	G	G	S	
	A	S	T	O		A	T	M	S		H	E	N	S
			E	P	E	E	S		H	A	T	T	I	P
	T	O	B	E	Y		W	E	A	R		A	P	A
T	E	N	U	R	E		E	N	D	E	A	R		
R	A	S	T	A		B	A	A		N	C	A	A	
O	M	I	T		N	O	T	B	Y	A	M	I	L	E
V	E	T	O		A	D	E	L	E		E	S	T	E
E	D	E	N		B	E	R	E	T		S	E	A	L

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UCONN MEN'S BASKETBALL

Transfer Alleyne brings new family of fans along

By Dom Amore
Hartford Courant

When former Virginia Tech guard Nahiem Alleyne decided to transfer to UConn, his biggest fan and her family from North Carolina were ready to adopt the Huskies.

"This message is for the UConn [men's] basketball team," Dani Jo Hearl said in a video she posted on Twitter on Wednesday. "I just want you to know a little bit about Nahiem Alleyne. His nickname is 'Nahiem The Dream.' Nahiem is the best person you can find. He's a great player and an even better person. ... I'm going to miss Nahiem at Virginia Tech. He was one of my best buddies."

Alleyne entered the NCAA transfer portal after the Hokies' season and committed to UConn last week.

Dani Jo Hearl, 14, has attended Virginia Tech men's basketball games for several years. She has congenital central hypoventilation syndrome (CCHS), a disorder of the nervous system that affects her breathing, and Hirschsprung's disease, a birth defect resulting in missing nerves in her bowels. She uses a number of medical devices, including a ventilator. It could be fatal if she falls asleep without it.

When her health allows she goes to games and has made friends among the players, frequently tweeting out videos on the Hearl family's account, expressing her support, wearing her Virginia Tech gear head to toe and shouting "Go Hokies." Her love of the Hokies and their players has been a welcome diversion from all she deals with.

Dani Jo and her family arrive early and stay late for games as players come by to say hello. She and her family formed a special bond with Alleyne and his family over the years.

"He is just genuinely a good person," said Joey Hearl, Dani Jo's father. "As soon as he comes out, he comes over, talks to her, high-fives, gives her a big hug, takes pictures with her, and after the game, she's waiting until they come back out of the locker room to give them a hug. You do that 25 games a year for three years, you get close to people.

Turn to Alleyne, Page 4

HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS

West Hartford celebrates 50 years of girls sports and Title IX

By Lori Riley
Hartford Courant

WEST HARTFORD — In early 1972 a group of parents, students and teachers went to a meeting of the West Hartford Board of Education to ask for funding for girls varsity sports.

This was before Title IX, which would prohibit sex discrimination in educational programs receiving federal funding, was enacted in June of 1972.

"We didn't think about history," said Suzi D'Annolfo, a cross country and track coach and physical education teacher at Conard who became West Hartford's first female athletic director in 1979. "We did it because we had these great kids at Hall and Conard that wanted to play so badly.

"When one board member asked, 'What sports would you cut for boys?' I thought, 'Oh, please pass this. How could we

Turn to Title IX, Page 6

NFL DRAFT

Cincinnati cornerback Ahmad Gardner defends against Navy during the second half of a game on Oct. 23, 2021, in Annapolis, Md. JULIO CORTEZ/AP

JETS

Jets grab Gardner at No. 4 overall, Wilson at No. 10

By Dennis Waszak Jr.
Associated Press

FLORHAM PARK, N.J. — The New York Jets are adding some Big Apple Sauce to their defense. And get ready for some Wilson-to-Wilson connections on offense.

Cincinnati cornerback Ahmad "Sauce" Gardner was taken by the Jets with the No. 4 overall pick in the NFL draft Thursday night. After bolstering the defense, New York gave second-year quarterback Zach Wilson and the offense another playmaker by selecting Ohio State wide receiver Garrett Wilson at No. 10.

Gardner, a 6-foot-2, 190-pound shutdown cornerback, didn't allow a touchdown reception in his three-year college career. He'll join free agent signing D.J. Reed to give coach Robert Saleh a new-look secondary — with both considered No. 1-type cornerbacks.

Gardner, wearing a diamond-encrusted "SAUCE" medallion and an equally gaudy sauce bottle on a chain around his neck at the draft site in Las Vegas, oozes confidence on and off the field. New York can only hope he can be as dominant a defender as their previous home-

Turn to Jets, Page 4

Oregon defensive end Kayvon Thibodeaux holds a jersey after being picked by the New York Giants with the fifth pick of the NFL football draft Thursday in Las Vegas. JOHN LOCHER/AP

GIANTS

New York, New York

Giants grab quick duo in Thibodeaux at No. 5 overall, Neal at No. 7

By Tom Rock
Newsday

NEW YORK — The Giants got an edge with an edge.

Kayvon Thibodeaux, one of the biggest personalities in this year's draft, was selected by the team with the fifth overall pick on Thursday.

The outside linebacker from Oregon who has been one of the top prospects in the country since high school will help give the Giants a strong pass rush which they have been lacking for many years. The last homegrown outside rusher they drafted who panned out was Jason Pierre-Paul in 2010 and the last outside linebacker they drafted in the first round was Carl Banks in 1984.

"To be part of a family and an organization like this is ridiculous," Thibodeaux said after dancing to the stage in Las Vegas. He said he knew the Giants would take him after he was FaceTimed by them earlier this week.

In actuality, the pick was not so certain. The Giants had to wait to see who they would select based upon the first four picks, including the one made by the Jets directly ahead of them. They took cornerback Sauce Gardner, believed to be the most coveted players by the Giants.

But with all three of the top offensive tackles on the board

Turn to Giants, Page 4

E-edition: NFL draft

Check out today's e-edition for a 4-page, digital-only section covering Thursday's first round of the NFL draft, which was completed too late for our print editions. The section includes pick-by-pick analysis, draft winners and losers, and how players enjoyed the night. **Go to our home page and click on the ENewspaper tab.**

The Yankees' Aaron Judge, right, celebrates with teammates after a win over the Orioles on Thursday at Yankee Stadium in New York. The Yankees completed a series sweep with a 10-5 victory. SETH WENIG/AP

YANKEES 10, ORIOLES 5

Win streak to 6 after sweep of the error-filled Orioles

By Matthew Roberson
New York Daily News

NEW YORK — As the old saying goes, over the course of a 162-game season, each team wins 54 games, loses 54 games and the remaining 54 could go either way.

On Thursday afternoon at Yankee Stadium, the Baltimore Orioles absolutely lost a game.

In the Yankees' 10-5 win over Baltimore, the O's coughed up four basically free runs in a fifth inning from hell, serving their AL East rival a lead on a silver platter. The Yankees, who were down 2-0 after three lazy innings, happily devoured it.

"Everyone on the roster has contributed," manager Aaron Boone said of his troops. "We just gotta keep working at it and hopefully go out and start a good road trip."

The bottom of the fifth began with a throwing error by Baltimore third baseman Kelvin Gutierrez. Normally, a team can maneuver around a leadoff error without much issue. But when you're the Orioles, a team staring down

Turn to Yankees, Page 2

SPORTS

UP NEXT

Celtics: NBA Second Round vs. Bucks (Game 1), Sunday, 1 p.m.; NBA Second Round vs. Bucks (Game 2), Tuesday, time TBD; NBA Second Round at Bucks (Game 3), May 7, time TBD
Bruins: at Maple Leafs, Friday, 7 p.m.; NHL First Round vs. TBD (Game 1), date/time TBD
Rangers: Capitals, Friday, 7 p.m.; NHL First Round vs. TBD (Game 1), date/time TBD
Red Sox: at Orioles, Friday, 7 p.m.; at Orioles, Saturday, 7 p.m.; at Orioles, Sunday, 1 p.m.
Yankees: at Royals, Friday, 8 p.m.; at Royals, Saturday, 7 p.m.; at Royals, Sunday, 2 p.m.
Mets: Phillies, Friday, 7 p.m.; Phillies, Saturday, 7 p.m.; Phillies, Sunday, 7 p.m.
Yard Goats: at Harrisburg, Friday, 7 p.m.; at Harrisburg, Saturday, 6 p.m.; at Harrisburg, Sunday, 1 p.m.
Hartford Athletic: at Indy Eleven, Saturday, 7 p.m.; Loudoun United, May 7, 7 p.m.; N.Y. Red Bulls II, May 14, 7 p.m.

TV/RADIO

AUTO RACING
1 p.m.: ARCA Racing Series Menards Series West: Kern County 150. (Same-day Tape) USA
3 p.m.: NASCAR Xfinity Racing Series A-Game 200, Qualifying. (Live) FS1
7 p.m.: NHRA Drag Racing NHRA Four-Wide Nationals, Qualifying. (Live) FS1
BASEBALL
3 p.m.: Delaware State at Norfolk State. (Live) ESPNU
7 p.m.: Auburn at Tennessee. (Live) SEC
7 p.m.: Houston Astros at Toronto Blue Jays. (Live) SPRTNET
7 p.m.: Boston Red Sox at Baltimore Orioles. (Live), NESN. Radio: 1080
7 p.m.: Philadelphia Phillies at New York Mets. (Live), SNY. Radio: 880
8 p.m.: New York Yankees at Kansas City Royals. (Live), Apple TV+. Radio: 97.9
8 p.m.: Dallas Baptist at Illinois State. (Live) ESPNU
BASKETBALL
8:10 p.m.: Playoffs: Teams TBA. (Live) ESPN
10:30 p.m.: Playoffs: Teams TBA. (Live) ESPN
2 a.m.: First Round: Teams TBA. (Same-day Tape) ESPN2
4 a.m.: First Round: Teams TBA. (Same-day Tape) ESPN2
GOLF
8 a.m.: DP World Tour Golf Catalunya Championship, Second Round. (Live) GOLF
12 p.m.: Insperity Invitational, First Round. (Live) GOLF
3:30 p.m.: Mexico Open at Vidanta, Second Round. (Live) GOLF
6:30 p.m.: Palos Verdes Championship, Second Round. (Live) GOLF
HOCKEY
7 p.m.: Boston Bruins at Toronto Maple Leafs. (Live), NESNPlus
7 p.m.: Washington Capitals at New York Rangers. (Live), MSG
8 p.m.: Vegas Golden Knights at St. Louis Blues. (Live) NHL
LACROSSE
12 p.m.: Women's College: ACC Tournament, Game 2: Teams TBA. (Live) ACC
2:30 p.m.: Women's College: ACC Tournament, Game 3: Notre Dame vs Duke. (Live) ACC
5 p.m.: Women's College: ACC Tournament, Game 4: Virginia Tech vs Boston College. (Live) ACC
6 p.m.: Lehigh at Loyola (Md.). (Live) CBSSN
7:30 p.m.: Women's College: ACC Tournament, Game 5: Virginia vs Syracuse. (Live) ACC
RUGBY
1 a.m.: NRL Rugby New Zealand Warriors vs Canberra Raiders. (Live) FSP
SOCCER
10 p.m.: NWSL Soccer North Carolina Courage at Angel City FC. (Live) CBSSN

BLUE JAYS 1, RED SOX 0

Offense goes stale in Toronto

By Peter Abraham
Boston Globe

TORONTO — If the Red Sox weren't an exciting team but had a good record, you could live with that.

An entertaining team with a poor record wouldn't be ideal, but at least you'd have a reason to watch.

The third option — a boring team with a poor record — is what has come out of the first 20 games of the season and it's painful.

In an afternoon nap of a game Thursday, the Blue Jays beat the Sox, 1-0.

With Xander Bogaerts limited to a pinch-hitting appearance and J.D. Martinez considered too sore to play, the Sox were held to four hits — three of them singles — by Alek Manoah and two relievers.

They had five-bats with runners in scoring position and failed to get the ball out of the infield each time.

The 8-12 Sox have lost seven of nine and are 2-5 on a road trip that continues Friday night in Baltimore. A trip to Camden Yards has been a sure cure for an ailing offense in recent years and the Sox have a lot of catching up to do.

They have scored two or fewer runs nine times and are tied for the third-fewest home runs in baseball with 11, the last one coming on April 22.

This is the first time since April 11-16, 2001 that the Sox have gone six consecutive games without hitting a home run. As a team, the Sox are hitting .229 with a .619 OPS.

Pitchers are better than ever and people around the game believe the ball has been deadened when compared with previous years.

But a Red Sox team that can't hit taters? It's unthinkable.

"We will hit homers. I think that's going to be part of it," manager Alex Cora said. "I think we're doing a better job of swinging at pitches in the zone and not chasing at much. With that, I think the home runs will come."

Rafael Devers, who hit the last Red Sox home run, is surprised to see this team experience such a power outage.

The Red Sox's Rafael Devers gestures after taking a strike during the ninth inning against the Blue Jays on Thursday in Toronto. **CHRISTOPHER KATSAROV/THE CANADIAN PRESS**

"We know we're good hitters. Top to bottom we're good hitters," he said via an interpreter. "We're ready to bounce back . . . We have guys hitting the ball really hard."

Manoah had a lot to do with the futility Thursday. The 24-year-righthander, now 4-0 with a 1.44 ERA, primarily used a fastball/slider combination to hold the Sox down. He wasn't afraid to challenge a lineup that had only two hitters with more than one homer.

Garrett Whitlock went three innings to take the loss. He allowed four hits and walked two with two strikeouts, never quite commanding his slider.

"You learn from these kind of outings," Whitlock said. "You just try and go forward. When you don't have your best stuff, you try and still pitch."

Toronto's run was unearned. Lourdes Gurriel Jr. reached on an error by shortstop Christian Arroyo with one out in the third inning. After Raimel Tapia walked, Whitlock struck out Matt Chapman.

But Alejandro Kirk had an RBI single on an 0-and-2 slider.

RED SOX NOTES

Houck will rejoin team in Baltimore, slated for relief work

By Peter Abraham
Boston Globe

TORONTO — Red Sox righthanders Kutter Crawford and Tanner Houck arrived in Baltimore on Thursday and will be activated off the restricted list Friday.

Because they have not been vaccinated for COVID-19, the pitchers could not travel to Canada for the series against the Blue Jays. They instead spent three days at the the Red Sox spring training complex in Fort Myers, Fla.

The plan is to use Houck Friday night against the Orioles in a multi-inning relief role behind lefthander Rich Hill.

"I think it's a good mix," manager Alex Cora said Thursday. "They're going to load up with righties and then you can go with Tanner. It's just taking advantage of the roster."

Houck was 1-1 with a 3.21 earned run average in three starts. He pitched in relief Sunday at Tampa Bay and threw 1 ⅔ perfect innings.

Bogaerts gets a break: Shortstop Xander Bogaerts was out of the lineup a day after going 4 for 4 with a walk.

"You guys know how I operate with this," Cora said. "People might say, 'He's hot; he's swinging it.' Right?

"But all the running around for x-amount of days, playing on the turf, moving around playing the position that he plays. We talked about it over the weekend and we picked this day. We have to be disciplined."

J.D. Martinez also was out of the lineup with soreness on his left side. He missed four games with the same issue before returning Monday, then aggravated the problem running the bases Wednesday night.

"We've got to be smart about it," Cora said.

The, shall we say, creative lineup that resulted included Kiké Hernández batting cleanup for the first time since 2019 and Jackie Bradley Jr. batting fifth.

Christian Arroyo started for Bogaerts at shortstop and the DH was Travis Shaw, who was hitless in 17 at-bats this season.

Seven for Sale: Chris Sale threw a seven-pitch bullpen session in Fort Myers Tuesday. "Not eight, not six. Seven," Cora said. "That's the beginning of the progression." Sale, who is returning from a fractured rib, was placed on the 60-day injured list April 4. ... James Paxton is up to 35 pitches in the bullpen as he comes back from Tommy John surgery. ... Boston filled the open spot on the 40-man roster by claiming 27-year-old righthanded-hitting outfielder Jaylin Davis off waivers from the Giants. He was optioned to Triple A Worcester. Davis hit .159 with a .490 OPS in 26 games for the Giants from 2019-21. He has hit .291 with 38 homers and a .983 OPS in 121 Triple A games.

YANKEES NOTES

Taillon has responded since being 'humiliated' last season

By Matthew Roberson
New York Daily News

NEW YORK — On June 12, 2021, Jameson Taillon had one of the worst days of his baseball life.

The Yankees' right-hander was knocked around by the Philadelphia Phillies, who hung four runs and five hits on him in the first inning, sending Taillon to an early exit after recording just one out.

Taillon called that start "embarrassing" and "humiliating." Since then, he's made 20 starts for the Yankees and given them a 3.26 ERA. Opponents have only reached base at a .280 clip since the meltdown in Philadelphia while striking out 95 times in 105.2 innings. In his most recent start, the sixth-year veteran held the Guardians to one run in five innings, getting himself out of multiple jams. After that game, he said he and catcher Jose Trevino "were pretty smart working through traffic," and even though Cleveland collected seven hits, he "thought the stuff was pretty good."

Aaron Boone has seen Taillon embark on an encouraging journey since the Phillies stole his lunch money last June.

"Failure — or getting humbled, punched in the mouth, however you want to put it — can be a great teaching tool," Boone said.

Getaway day lineup: Thursday was a historic day for the Yankee franchise. For the first time in club history, Tim Locastro and Marwin Gonzalez started a game together.

Locastro got the nod in center field for the afternoon showdown with the Orioles. With Aaron Hicks still on the paternity list (Boone expects him back for the upcoming trip to Kansas City), and Boone's admitted reluctance to play Giancarlo Stanton in the field three days in a row, Locastro made just his second start of the season.

Gonzalez filled in at shortstop for the second time, giving Isiah Kiner-Falefa a day off. Gonzalez, one of the game's consummate utility guys, has yet to make an appearance in the outfield this season. Boone said that with the O's starting lefty Bruce Zimmermann, he thought about inserting Miguel Andujar (who was called up from Triple-A to temporarily replace Hicks) into Thursday's lineup, but ultimately opted against it.

Roster crunch coming: When the 2022 season began with expanded, 28-man rosters, it was with the stipulation that each team would have to go down to 13 pitchers on May 2. That has already changed, with MLB and the players' union agreeing that, in the interest of player safety, teams can carry as many as 14 pitchers until May 29.

Right now, the Yankees have 15 pitchers on their active roster, meaning someone will have to go after their three gamer against the Royals this weekend. The Yankee skipper also hinted at the possibility that two pitchers could be moved off the active roster.

Yankees

from Page 1

the barrel at their fourth 100-loss season in the last four full seasons, things like that tend to snowball into something much, much worse.

Letting Tim Locastro — already one of the fastest men in cleats — reach base on an error is a great way to start an unraveling. Sure enough, Locastro sped around the bases for the Yankees' first run when Marwin Gonzalez, a fellow member of the bench mob, smacked an RBI double.

"As soon as I saw the ball hit, I was thinking, 'Score on that,'" Locastro crowed. "No doubt about it."

Shortstop Jorge Mateo booted a ball later in the inning that should have been the second out, but instead placed runners at the corners for the scary part of the Yankees' lineup.

You'll never guess what happened next.

Aaron Judge, Anthony Rizzo and Giancarlo Stanton poked three consecutive singles. Judge's could have been ruled an error on former Yankee Rougned Odor, but perhaps the official scorer was feeling a bit too cruel already. When the dust settled, the Yankees had a 4-2 lead, all on unearned runs.

"Whenever you can get extra outs in a baseball game, you always want to cash in on those," Rizzo said.

With the Yankees' domineering bullpen, the rest of the game was a cinch. Miguel Castro, Wandy Peralta, Jonathan Loaisiga, Chad Green relieved Jameson Taillon without allowing any Orioles to touch home plate. Meanwhile, the Yankees added on in the sixth inning thanks to, you guessed it, another Orioles error.

This one was by pitcher Mike Baumann. The righthanded reliever threw a truly ridiculous 103.4 mph pitch earlier in the game, but his ill-advised throw to first on a Locastro comebacker in the sixth inning ended up by the dugout. The error let Joey Gallo move up to third. Gallo scooted home on a sac fly one batter later, further widening the gap between the Yankees and O's, both literally and figuratively. After a wild pitch and a three-run round tripper from Judge in the bottom of the eighth, that gap had become the Mariana Trench.

For Taillon, this certainly was not a game to write home about. Still, he limited damage well, and thanks to shrewd bullpen management by Aaron Boone, the Yankees weren't totally sunk by Taillon lasting just 4.2 innings.

"I got nickel and dimed a little bit," Taillon reflected. "Some hits found holes. I have a few things to work on going into the next game. I want to get better at consistently throwing the fastball down and away to righties. Overall, I thought it was a fine outing. I'll clean some things up."

Orioles starter Bruce Zimmermann was even better than Taillon, but like his counterpart, he was also pulled before finishing five innings. Zimmermann struck out five and kept the Yankees scoreless through the first four innings before his defense revolted.

Ron Marinaccio did give the visitors two ninth inning runs as a treat, but the only difference they made was in the youngster's ERA. The Yankees have now won six in a row heading into another winnable series in Kansas City. The two straight sweeps have seen the Yankees win in a start-to-finish blowout (Sunday's 10-2 romp over Cleveland), come back to win on a walk-off (Saturday's trash-filled bonanza), and with Thursday's game now in the books, they've also won ugly.

METS

Club to meet with exec over hit by pitches, grip issues

By Tim Healy
Newsday

ST. LOUIS — The Mets are going to get that conversation for which they have been asking.

Morgan Sword, Major League Baseball's executive vice president of baseball operations, will meet with at least the Mets' pitchers and perhaps other players Friday at Citi Field, people familiar with the plan told Newsday, a result of the club's furiousness over getting hit by pitches and apparent trouble with gripping baseballs.

That will punctuate an eventful several days that included Pete Alonso getting hit in the head for a second time this month, right-hander Chris Bassitt criticizing MLB's handling of what he called "a very big problem with the baseballs," general manager Billy Eppler and manager Buck Showalter speaking with Sword on the topic, and the benches clearing between the Mets and Cardinals after J.D. Davis was plunked and Nolan Arenado didn't like a pitch that came up and in.

Showalter, serving as an understanding but angry middleman between the league and his players who believe the league is being negligent, said MLB is "very sensitive to all the clubs' thoughts and needs."

"It's pretty obvious it is an issue," he said.

Anger in the Mets' clubhouse reached a peak this week as they were plunked a most-in-the-majors 19 times in 20 games.

At the start of play Thursday, a day off for the Mets, no other team had more than 13. The Pirates hadn't been hit at all.

The trend seems to have two primary sources, according to those involved: the inconsistent feel and gripability of the baseballs, which negatively affects pitchers' ability to locate their pitches, as well as other teams frequently and strategically throwing inside to Mets hitters.

The former, mentioned by Showalter as early as the second day of the season, has received most of the attention recently. Alonso, Bassitt and Max Scherzer have attributed the tackiness problem to MLB's crackdown on pitchers using sticky substances, which began last June out of a fear that it gave them an unfair advantage.

Bassitt said "MLB doesn't give a damn" about the unintended consequences.

This complaint is not universal.

Carlos Carrasco, for example, said he hasn't had any issues holding the ball this year. The Yankees' Jameson Taillon said he hasn't experienced it or heard any chatter on the topic.

MacIver homer gives Yard Goats split at Senators

HARRISBURG, PA. — Willie MacIver homered with one out on the seventh to lift the Hartford Yards Goats to a 5-4 win over the Harrisburg Senators and salvage an Eastern League doubleheader split on Thursday night.

Harrisburg won the opener 6-1.

Blair Calvo (2-0) picked up the win in relief for Hartford in the nightcap and Nick Kennedy closed the game for his third save.

In the opener, the Senators got to Yard Goats starter Nick Bush for four runs in the fourth as Taylor Gushue, Justin Connell and Mitch Longo all homered.

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
New York	13	6	.684	—	—	8-2	W-6	10-3	3-3
Toronto	13	7	.650	½	—	7-3	W-1	7-3	6-4
Tampa Bay	11	8	.579	2	—	7-3	W-2	8-5	3-3
Boston	8	12	.400	5½	3½	3-7	L-1	3-4	5-8
Baltimore	6	13	.316	7	5	3-7	L-4	3-3	3-10

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Minnesota	11	8	.579	—	—	8-2	W-7	8-4	3-4
Kansas City	7	10	.412	3	3	5-5	W-1	5-5	2-5
Chicago	7	11	.389	3½	3½	1-9	L-1	5-4	2-7
Cleveland	7	12	.368	4	4	3-7	L-7	3-3	4-9
Detroit	6	12	.333	4½	4½	2-8	L-5	4-8	2-4

WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Los Angeles	13	7	.650	—	—	7-3	W-5	8-5	5-2
Seattle	11	8	.579	1½	—	7-3	L-2	7-2	4-6
Houston	10	9	.526	2½	1	5-5	W-3	2-4	8-5
Oakland	10	9	.526	2½	1	5-5	W-1	4-3	6-6
Texas	6	13	.316	6½	5	4-6	L-3	2-8	4-5

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
New York	14	6	.700	—	—	7-3	L-1	5-2	9-4
Miami	10	8	.556	3	2	7-3	W-5	4-3	6-5
Philadelphia	10	10	.500	4	3	6-4	W-4	8-5	2-5
Atlanta	8	11	.421	5½	4½	4-6	L-1	5-7	3-4
Washington	6	15	.286	8½	7½	2-8	L-8	3-11	3-4

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
Milwaukee	13	7	.650	—	—	8-2	W-3	5-3	8-4
St. Louis	10	7	.588	1½	1½	5-5	W-1	4-3	6-4
Chicago	8	10	.444	4	4	4-6	W-1	4-6	4-4
Pittsburgh	8	11	.421	4½	4½	3-7	L-3	4-5	4-6
Cincinnati	3	16	.158	9½	9½	1-9	L-3	1-7	2-9

WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
San Francisco	13	6	.684	—	—	6-4	L-1	5-3	8-3
Los Angeles	12	6	.667	½	—	6-4	L-2	6-1	6-5
San Diego	13	7	.650	½	—	8-2	W-3	6-4	7-3
Colorado	10	9	.526	3	2½	4-6	L-4	6-4	4-5
Arizona	8	11	.421	5	4½	5-5	W-2	5-7	3-4

BOX SCORES

MIAMI 3, WASHINGTON 2

Miami	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Berti 2b	2	0	1	1	1	.353
Aguilar dh	3	0	0	0	1	.203
Soler lf	4	0	0	0	1	.171
Cooper 1b	4	0	1	0	1	.273
Garcia rf	4	0	1	0	0	.183
Anderson 3b	4	1	1	0	2	.250
Rojas ss	2	2	0	0	0	.163
Stallings c	1	0	0	0	0	.184
De La Cruz cf	2	0	0	0	1	.286
a-Sanchez ph-cf	2	0	1	1	1	.284
Henry c	2	0	0	0	1	.000
b-Wendle ph-ss	2	0	0	0	0	.321
TOTALS	**32**	**3**	**5**	**2**	**9**	
Washington	**AB**	**R**	**H**	**BI**	**SO**	**AVG**
C.Hernandez 2b	4	1	2	1	0	.258
Soto rf	2	0	0	0	1	.243
Bell 1b	4	0	1	1	2	.328
Cruz dh	3	0	0	0	0	.160
1-Thomas pr	0	0	0	0	0	.185
Y.Hernandez lf	4	0	0	0	1	.289
Franco 3b	4	0	0	0	2	.263
Adams c	3	0	0	0	0	.100
c-Ruiz ph	1	0	0	0	0	.262
Fox ss	2	0	0	0	0	.000
Robles cf	3	1	1	0	0	.152
TOTALS	**30**	**2**	**4**	**2**	**6**	

Miami	**001 000 200**	**—**	**3**	**5**	**1**
Washington	**100 000 010**	**—**	**2**	**4**	**2**

a-singled for De La Cruz in the 7th. b-pinch hit for Henry in the 7th. c-grounded out for Adams in the 9th. 1-ran for Cruz in the 9th.
E: Anderson (3), Fox (2), Robles (3).
LOB: Miami 6, Washington 5.
2B: Berti (2), Cooper (4), Anderson (4), Bell (4), Robles (4), C.Hernandez (5).
RBIs: Berti (1), Sanchez (10), Bell (14), C.Hernandez (3).
SB: Wendle (4), Berti (1). **CS:** Berti (1).
Runners left in scoring position: Miami 4(Soler 3, Garcia); Washington 2(Bell, Y.Hernandez).
RISP: Miami 2for 9; Washington 2for 6.
GIDP: Bell.
DP: Miami 1(Rojas, Berti, Cooper).

MIAMI	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
T.Rogers, W, 1-3	6	2	1	1	2	4	5.09
Bass, H, 5	1	0	0	0	0	0	1.80
Bleier, H, 2	⅔	2	1	1	1	0	6.23
Sulser, S, 1-1	1⅓	0	0	0	1	2	1.04
WASHINGTON	**IP**	**H**	**R**	**ER**	**BB**	**SO**	**ERA**
Corbin, L, 0-4	6	4	3	2	2	8	8.69
Arano	1	1	0	0	0	0	1.64
Voth	1	0	0	0	0	0	6.00
J.Rogers	1	0	0	0	0	1	4.60

Pitches-Strikes: Rogers 91-58; Bass 8-5; Bleier 13-8; Sulser 22-15; Corbin 90-62; Arano 16-10; Voth 7-6; Rogers 8-6.
Batters Faced: Rogers 21; Bass 3; Bleier 5; Sulser 5; Corbin 25; Arano 5; Voth 3; Rogers 3.
Inherited runners-scored: Sulser 2-0, Arano 2-2.
HBP: Corbin (Rojas), Arano (Berti).
WP: T.Rogers, Arano. **PB:** Henry (1).
Umpires: Home, Chris Segal; First, Dan Merzel; Second, Bill Welke; Third, Mike Muchlinski. T: 2:46. **A:** 12,454(41,339).

KANSAS CITY 5, CHI. WHITE SOX 2

Kansas City	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Lopez ss	3	1	0	0	1	.255
Merrifield 2b	5	1	0	0	0	.127
Benintendi lf	3	1	2	2	0	.393
Perez dh-c	5	0	0	0	4	.200
Santana 1b	2	1	0	0	1	.104
Witt Jr. 3b	5	0	1	0	1	.206
Isbel rf	4	0	2	2	0	.400
Taylor cf	4	0	0	0	1	.174
Gallagher c	3	1	1	0	0	.267
a-Olivares ph	0	0	0	0	0	.154
Barlow p	0	0	0	0	0	---
Clarke p	0	0	0	0	0	---
TOTALS	**34**	**5**	**6**	**4**	**8**	
White Sox	**AB**	**R**	**H**	**BI**	**SO**	**AVG**
Anderson ss	4	0	0	0	1	.288
Vaughn lf	3	0	1	0	0	.300
Sheets rf	4	0	0	0	1	.227
Engel rf	0	0	0	0	0	.188
Abreu 1b	4	0	1	0	1	.206
Grandal dh	3	0	1	0	1	.173
1-Harrison dh	1	1	0	0	1	.094
Burger 3b	4	0	1	0	1	.277
Pollock cf	3	0	0	1	0	.182
McGuire c	3	0	0	0	1	.167
Garcia 2b	3	1	1	1	0	.114
TOTALS	**32**	**2**	**5**	**2**	**7**	

Kansas City	**100 010 000 3—**	**5**	**6**	**0**
Chi. White Sox	**000 001 010 0—**	**2**	**5**	**0**

a-hit by pitch for Gallagher in the 9th. 1-ran for Grandal in the 8th. **LOB:** Kansas City 10, Chicago 3. **2B:** Benintendi (1). **HR:** Garcia (1), off Keller.
RBIs: Benintendi 2(10), Isbel 2(2), Garcia (1), Pollock (2).
SB: Witt Jr. (4). **SF:** Benintendi, Pollock.
Runners left in scoring position: Kansas City 6(Witt Jr., Gallagher 2, Taylor 3); Chicago 1(Pollock). **RISP:** Kansas City 1 for 10; ChW 1for 4. **Runners moved up:** Isbel. **GIDP:** Merrifield, Burger, Sheets.
DP: Kansas City 2(Lopez, Merrifield, Santana; Santana, Lopez, Santana); Chicago 1(Anderson, Garcia, Abreu).

KANSAS CITY	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Keller	7	3	1	1	0	3	2.19
Staumont, BS, 2-4	1	2	1	1	0	0	4.00
Barlow, W, 2-0	1	0	0	0	1	2	1.93
Clarke, S, 1-2	1	0	0	0	0	2	1.12
WHITE SOX	**IP**	**H**	**R**	**ER**	**BB**	**SO**	**ERA**
Kopech	5	3	2	2	4	3	1.42
Banks	2	1	0	0	1	0	0.00
Ruiz	1	1	0	0	1	2	2.70
Bummer, L, 0-1	1⅔	1	3	1	2	2	7.04
Foster	⅓	0	0	0	0	1	1.04

Inherited runners-scored: Foster 1-0.
HBP: Bummer (Olivares). **WP:** Staumont, Banks. **PB:** McGuire (1).
Umpires: Home, Will Little; First, Greg Gibson; Second, Nick Mahrley; Third, Rob Drake. T: 3:20. **A:** 11,242(40,615).

TAMPA BAY 2, SEATTLE 1

Seattle	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Frazier 2b	4	1	1	0	0	.244
France 1b	3	0	1	0	0	.365
Winker lf	2	0	0	0	1	.159
Suarez dh	4	0	1	1	2	.254
Crawford ss	4	0	1	0	3	.343
Toro 3b	4	0	0	0	0	.158
Rodriguez cf	3	0	1	0	1	.194
Kelenic rf	3	0	0	0	1	.140
b-Murphy ph	1	0	0	0	1	.417
Torrens c	3	0	1	0	1	.235
TOTALS	**31**	**1**	**6**	**1**	**10**	
Tampa Bay	**AB**	**R**	**H**	**BI**	**SO**	**AVG**
Margot rf	3	0	1	0	1	.275
Kiermaier cf	0	0	0	0	0	.209
Franco ss	3	0	0	0	0	.307
Diaz 1b	3	0	2	0	0	.294
B.Lowe 2b	4	0	0	0	1	.183
Ramirez dh	2	2	1	0	0	.357
J.Lowe lf	2	0	1	0	0	.170
a-Arozarena lf	1	0	0	0	1	.200
Walls 3b	3	0	0	0	1	.257
Phillips cf-rf	3	0	2	2	0	.233
Pinto c	3	0	0	0	1	.333
TOTALS	**27**	**2**	**7**	**2**	**5**	

Seattle	**100 000 000**	**—**	**1**	**6**	**0**
Tampa Bay	**010 000 10x**	**—**	**2**	**7**	**1**

a-struck out for J.Lowe in the 8th. b-struck out for Kelenic in the 9th.
E: Pinto (2). **LOB:** Seattle 7, Tampa Bay 7. 3B: Suarez (1).
RBIs: Suarez (11), Phillips 2(4).
SB: Rodriguez 2 (8), Phillips (3), Franco (2). **CS:** Margot (1). **S:** J.Lowe.
Runners left in scoring position: Seattle 4(Suarez, Crawford, Kelenic, Murphy); Tampa Bay 3(Arozarena 2, Pinto).
RISP: Seattle 2for 8; Tampa Bay 2for 7.
Runners moved up: France, Walls 2.
L**IDP:** Kelenic, Franco. **GIDP:** Suarez, Walls.
DP: Seattle 2(France; Frazier, Crawford, France); Tampa Bay 2(Franco, Diaz, Franco; Walls, B.Lowe, Diaz).

SEATTLE	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Flexen, L, 1-3	6⅔	6	2	2	2	4	3.38
Castillo	⅔	1	0	0	2	0	2.08
Misiewicz	⅔	0	0	0	1	1	2.08
TAMPA BAY	**IP**	**H**	**R**	**ER**	**BB**	**SO**	**ERA**
Springs	2⅔	3	1	1	0	3	0.93
Adam	1⅓	0	0	0	1	2	1.12
Beeks	2	2	0	0	1	2	0.00
Feyereisen, W, 1-0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0.00
Poche, H, 3	⅔	1	0	0	0	0	2.45
Thompson, S, 2-2	⅓	0	0	0	0	1	0.00

Inherited runners-scored: Castillo 1-0, Misiewicz 2-0, Adam 1-0, Thompson 1-0. **IBB:** off Adam (Winker). **HBP:** Adam (Rodriguez). **WP:** Adam, Beeks.
Umpires: HP, Shane Livensparger; 1B, Tom Hallion; 2B, Phil Cuzzi; 3B, Cory Blaser. T: 3:04. **A:** 6,749(25,000).

N.Y. YANKEES 10, BALTIMORE 5

Baltimore	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Mullins dh	4	1	0	0	0	.205
Santander rf	5	0	0	0	1	.222
Mancini 1b	5	1	2	1	1	.236
Hays lf	5	1	4	1	0	.279
Odor 2b	5	1	3	1	2	.200
Mateo ss	4	0	1	0	2	.238
McKenna cf	4	1	2	1	2	.250
Bemboom c	3	0	0	0	2	.130
a-Urias ph	0	0	0	0	0	.203
Gutierrez 3b	5	0	2	1	2	.148
TOTALS	**40**	**5**	**14**	**5**	**12**	
NY Yankees	**AB**	**R**	**H**	**BI**	**SO**	**AVG**
LeMahieu 2b	5	3	1	0	0	.313
Judge rf	5	2	2	4	1	.296
Rizzo 1b	5	0	2	1	1	.290
Stanton dh	4	0	1	1	2	.243
Donaldson 3b	4	0	1	1	1	.197
Gallo lf	3	1	0	0	3	.153
Locastro cf	2	2	1	0	0	.286
Gonzalez ss	3	1	1	2	1	.250
Higashioka c	3	1	1	0	0	.128
TOTALS	**34**	**10**	**10**	**9**	**9**	

Baltimore	**011 000 003**	**—**	**5**	**14**	**5**
N.Y. Yankees	**000 041 14x**	**—**	**10**	**10**	**0**

a-walked for Bemboom in the 9th.
E: Gutierrez 2(3), Mateo 2(4), Baumann (1). **LOB:** Baltimore 13, New York 6.
2B: Hays 3(7), McKenna (2), Odor 2(4), Mancini (4), Rizzo (4), Gonzalez (1), LeMahieu (4). **HR:** Judge (5), off Fry.
RBIs: Gutierrez (3), Mancini (8), Hays (9), Odor (5), McKenna (2), Gonzalez 2(2), Judge 4(10), Rizzo (19), Stanton (13), Donaldson (5).
SB: Locastro (3). **CS:** Locastro (1).
SF: Gonzalez. **S:** Bemboom.
Runners left in scoring position: Baltimore 9(Gutierrez, McKenna 2, Mancini, Odor 3, Mullins 2); New York 2(Gallo, Stanton).
RISP: Baltimore 4for 15; New York 6for 15. **Runners moved up:** Mancini, Judge.
GIDP: Donaldson, LeMahieu.
DP: Baltimore 2(Gutierrez, Odor, Mancini; Gutierrez, Mancini).

BALTIMORE	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Zimmermann, L, 1-1	4⅓	5	4	0	1	90	
Baker	⅔	1	0	0	0	0	5.62
Baumann	1⅔	3	2	1	2	0	6.14
Fry	1⅓	1	4	3	1	4	10.29
NY YANKEES	**IP**	**H**	**R**	**ER**	**BB**	**SO**	**ERA**
Taillon	4⅔	7	2	2	1	4	3.26
Castro, W, 2-0	⅓	1	0	0	1	1	2.45
Peralta, H, 2	⅔	1	0	0	0	0	2.45
Loaisiga, H, 3	1⅓	1	0	0	0	3	6.75
Green	1	0	0	0	0	2	4.32
Marinaccio	⅔	4	3	3	0	2	11.25
Luetge	⅓	0	0	0	1	0	5.68

Inherited runners-scored: Baker 2-1, Fry 2-0, Castro 1-0, Loaisiga 2-0, Luetge 1-0.
HBP: Taillon (Mullins), Fry (Higashioka). **WP:** Baumann, Fry, Taillon(2), Marinaccio.
Umpires: HP, Ted Barrett; 1B, Lance Barksdale; 2B, Nic Lentz; 3B, Nestor Ceja. T: 3:51. **A:** 29,268(47,309).

PHILADELPHIA 7, COLORADO 1

Colorado	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Joe 1b	5	0	0	0	2	.270
Blackmon rf	3	0	0	0	0	.262
Grichuk cf	4	0	0	0	3	.327
Cron dh	4	0	1	0	2	.280
McMahon 3b	3	1	1	0	1	.242
Iglesias ss	4	0	1	0	0	.333
Hilliard lf	2	0	1	1	0	.250
Trejo 2b	4	0	1	0	1	.259
Nunez c	0	0	0	0	0	.154
a-Diaz ph-c	2	0	0	0	1	.245
TOTALS	**31**	**1**	**5**	**1**	**10**	
Philadelphia	**AB**	**R**	**H**	**BI**	**SO**	**AVG**
Segura 2b	4	0	1	1	1	.259
Hoskins 1b	3	0	0	1	1	.206
Harper dh	3	0	1	1	1	.276
Castellanos rf	2	1	0	1	1	.319
Realmuto c	3	1	0	0	1	.290
Bohm 3b	4	1	1	2	1	.326
Vierling lf	3	1	0	0	2	.154
Gregorius ss	4	1	0	0	1	.311
Quinn cf	2	2	1	1	0	.333
TOTALS	**28**	**7**	**4**	**7**	**9**	

Colorado	**000 000 100**	**—**	**1**	**5**	**2**
Philadelphia	**011 100 40x**	**—**	**7**	**4**	**1**

a-flied out for Nunez in the 7th.
E: McMahon (4), Joe (1), Hand (1).
LOB: Colorado 9, Philadelphia 4.
2B: Cron (5). **3B:** Hilliard (1).
HR: Bohm (2), off Gomber.
RBIs: Hilliard (3), Bohm 2(14), Hoskins (6), Quinn (1), Segura (5), Harper (14), Castellanos (12).
SB: Quinn 2 (2), Realmuto (3).
CS: Harper (1). **SF:** Hoskins.
Runners left in scoring position: Colorado 3(Joe 2, Iglesias); Philadelphia 3(Gregorius, Realmuto 2). **RISP:** Colorado 1for 8; Philadelphia 1for 7.
Runners moved up: Bohm. **GIDP:** Joe.
DP: Philadelphia 1(Segura, Hoskins).

COLORADO	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Gomber, L, 1-2	6	3	3	2	1	6	3.86
Kinley	⅔	1	4	2	3	0	2.25
Lawrence	1⅓	0	0	0	1	3	1.69
PHILADELPHIA	**IP**	**H**	**R**	**ER**	**BB**	**SO**	**ERA**
Wheeler, W, 1-3	6	1	0	0	4	7	5.79
Hand, H, 3	⅓	3	1	1	0	0	2.08
Norwood, H, 1	⅔	0	0	0	0	0	3.38
Bellatti	1	1	0	0	1	1	1.80
Jones	1	0	0	0	1	2	9.64

Pitches-Strikes: Gomber 88-57; Kinley 27-12; Lawrence 21-14; Wheeler 90-62; Hand 15-11; Norwood 3-2; Bellatti 22-14; Jones 23-12.
Batters Faced: Gomber 22; Kinley 7; Lawrence 6; Wheeler 22; Hand 4; Norwood 2; Bellatti 5; Jones 4.
Inherited runners-scored: Lawrence 3-2, Norwood 2-0.
HBP: Lawrence (Harper).
Umpires: Home, Manny Gonzalez; First, CB Bucknor; Second, Stu Scheuwater; Third, Jeff Nelson.
T: 3:08. **A:** 20,098(42,792).

LATE WEDNESDAY: MIAMI 2, WASHINGTON 1

Miami	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Chisholm Jr. 2b	3	0	2	0	0	.308
Aguilar 1b	2	1	1	1	0	.214
Soler lf	3	0	0	1	1	.182
De La Cruz lf	0	0	0	0	0	.333
Sanchez cf	3	0	0	0	2	.277
Garcia rf	4	0	0	0	2	.179
Cooper dh	3	0	0	0	1	.275
Wendle 3b	4	0	0	0	1	.333
Rojas ss	4	0	0	0	0	.170
Stallings c	3	1	1	0	1	.188
TOTALS	**29**	**2**	**4**	**2**	**8**	
Washington	**AB**	**R**	**H**	**BI**	**SO**	**AVG**
C.Hernandez 2b	4	1	1	0	1	.247
Soto rf	4	0	0	0	1	.235
Bell 1b	2	0	0	0	0	.333
1-Escobar pr-ss	0	0	0	0	0	.123
Cruz dh	3	0	0	1	1	.167
Y.Hernandez lf	4	0	1	0	1	.317
Ruiz c	3	0	0	0	0	.267
Thomas cf	4	0	0	0	4	.185
Franco 3b-1b	4	0	2	0	1	.278
2-Robles pr	0	0	0	0	0	.140
Fox ss-3b	4	0	0	0	0	.000
TOTALS	**32**	**1**	**4**	**1**	**9**	

Miami	**001 010 000**	**—**	**2**	**4**	**2**
Washington	**000 000 010**	**—**	**1**	**4**	**2**

1-ran for Bell in the 8th. 2-ran for Franco in the 9th.**E:** Aguilar (1), Chisholm Jr. (3), Soto (1), Bell (1).
LOB: Miami 6, Washington 8.
2B: Y.Hernandez (3).
HR: Aguilar (1), off Fedde.
RBIs: Aguilar (5), Soler (4), Cruz (10).
CS: Chisholm Jr. (1).
Runners left in scoring position: Miami 4(Sanchez 2, Rojas, Garcia); Washington 3(Ruiz, Y.Hernandez 2). **RISP:** Miami 0for 3; Washington 0for 2. **GIDP:** Aguilar, Fox. **DP:** Miami 1(Chisholm Jr., Rojas, Aguilar); Washington 1(Franco, C.Hernandez, Bell).

MIAMI	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Lopez, W, 3-0	6	3	0	0	1	6	0.39
Okert, H, 2	⅔	0	0	0	1	1	1.59
Bass, H, 4	1	0	1	0	0	1	2.00
Scott	0	0	0	0	2	0	6.14
Bender, S, 4-5	1⅓	1	0	0	0	1	5.40
WASHINGTON	**IP**	**H**	**R**	**ER**	**BB**	**SO**	**ERA**
Fedde, L, 1-2	4⅔	3	2	2	3	5	6.00
Machado	⅓	0	0	0	2	1	2.79
Cishek	1	0	0	0	0	1	7.36
Ramirez	1	1	0	0	0	0	0.00
Rainey	1	0	0	0	0	1	0.00
Finnegan	1	0	0	0	0	0	3.52

Scott pitched to 3 batters in the 8th
Inherited runners-scored: Bass 1-0, Scott 1-1, Bender 3-0, Machado 2-1.
HBP: Cishek (Cooper).
Umpires: Home, Gabe Morales; First, Chris Segal; Second, Dan Merzel; Third, Bill Welke. T: 3:20. **A:** 13,356(41,339).

TORONTO 1, BOSTON 0

Boston	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Story 2b	3	0	0	0	1	.224
Verdugo lf	4	0	1	0	1	.254
Devers 3b	4	0	1	0	1	.277
Hernandez cf	4	0	1	0	1	.197
Bradley Jr. rf	4	0	0	0	1	.161
Arroyo ss	3	0	1	0	0	.194
Dalbec 1b	3	0	0	0	1	.154
Shaw dh	2	0	0	0	1	.000
a-Bogaerts dh	1	0	0	0	0	.392
Vazquez c	3	0	0	0	1	.209
TOTALS	**31**	**0**	**4**	**0**	**8**	
Toronto	**AB**	**R**	**H**	**BI**	**SO**	**AVG**
Springer dh	3	0	0	0	0	.288
Bichette ss	4	0	1	0	1	.212
Gurriel Jr. lf	4	1	1	0	0	.274
Tapia rf	3	0	0	0	0	.210
Chapman 3b	4	0	1	0	2	.219
Kirk c	4	0	2	1	0	.265
Espinal 2b	4	0	1	0	1	.262
Katoh 1b	2	0	0	0	0	.143
Zimmer cf	3	0	0	0	1	.080
TOTALS	**31**	**1**	**6**	**1**	**5**	

Boston	**000 000 000**	**—**	**0**	**4**	**1**
Toronto	**001 000 00x**	**—**	**1**	**6**	**0**

a-grounded out for Shaw in the 8th.
E: Arroyo (1). **LOB:** Boston 5, Toronto 9.
2B: Hernandez (8), Chapman (4).
RBIs: Kirk (2).
SB: Espinal (3), Arroyo (1).
Runners left in scoring position: Boston 2(Shaw, Dalbec); Toronto 4(Chapman, Kirk, Springer, Espinal).
RISP: Boston 0for 5; Toronto 1for 8.
Runners moved up: Bradley Jr., Tapia.

BOSTON	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Whitlock, L, 1-1	3	4	1	0	2	2	0.54
Davis	⅔	0	0	0	1	0	2.89
Schreiber	1⅓	1	0	0	0	0	0.00
Brasier	1	0	0	0	0	1	3.00
Barnes	1	0	0	0	0	1	5.40
Robles	1	1	0	0	0	1	0.00
TORONTO	**IP**	**H**	**R**	**ER**	**BB**	**SO**	**ERA**
Manoah, W, 4-0	7	3	0	0	1	7	1.44
Cimber, H, 3	1	0	0	0	0	0	1.80
Romano, S, 9-10	1	1	0	0	0	1	1.74

Pitches-Strikes: Whitlock 61-41; Davis 14-7; Schreiber 22-12; Brasier 10-7; Barnes 11-7; Robles 13-10; Manoah 92-63; Cimber 10-7; Romano 12-9.
Ground Balls-Fly Balls: Whitlock 8-1; Davis 1-1; Schreiber 2-2; Brasier 1-0; Barnes 1-1; Robles 1-2; Manoah 4-9; Cimber 2-0; Romano 1-0.
Batters Faced: Whitlock 16; Davis 3; Schreiber 5; Brasier 3; Barnes 3; Robles 4; Manoah 25; Cimber 3; Romano 4.
Inherited runners-scored: Schreiber 1-0.
Umpires: Home, Larry Vanover; First, Dan Bellino; Second, David Rackley; Third, Sean Barber.
T: 2:42. **A:** 23,144(53,506).

LATE WEDNESDAY: CHI. CUBS 6, ATLANTA 3 (10)

Chi Cubs	AB	R	H	BI	SO	AVG
Ortega dh	4	1	1	0	2	.209
Suzuki rf	5	1	2	1	1	.333
Happ lf	2	1	1	1	0	.340
Contreras c	4	1	1	1	0	.254
Schwindel 1b	5	0	1	0	2	.239
Wisdom 3b	4	2	1	2	2	.236
Heyward cf	3	0	1	0	1	.273
a-Gomes ph	1	0	0	0	1	.217
Hermosillo cf	0	0	0	0	0	.105
Madrigal 2b	5	0	2	1	1	.218
Hoerner ss	5	0	1	0	0	.316
TOTALS	**38**	**6**	**11**	**6**	**10**	
Atlanta	**AB**	**R**	**H**	**BI**	**SO**	**AVG**
Albies 2b	5	0	0	0	1	.240
Olson 1b	4	1	1	0	2	.329
Riley 3b	4	0	1	0	1	.275
Ozuna lf	5	0	0	0	2	.257
d'Arnaud c	4	0	1	1	1	.308
Dickerson dh	5	1	2	0	2	.121
Duvall cf	5	1	2	0	2	.197
Demeritte rf	3	0	0	0	0	.300
Swanson ss	3	0	1	2	1	.188
TOTALS	**38**	**3**	**8**	**3**	**12**	

Chi Cubs	**012 000 000 3**	**—6**	**11**	**0**
Atlanta	**000 010 020 0**	**—3**	**8**	**0**

a-struck out for Heyward in the 10th.
LOB: Chicago 10, Atlanta 11.
2B: Ortega (4), Suzuki (5), Madrigal (3), Contreras (6), Olson (9).
HR: Wisdom (3), off Matzek.
RBIs: Madrigal (2), Suzuki (14), Happ (11), Contreras (7), Wisdom 2(13), d'Arnaud (7), Swanson 2(6).
CS: Ortega (3). **SF:** Happ.
Runners left in scoring position: Chicago 2(Ortega, Heyward); Atlanta 7(Albies 3, Duvall, Ozuna, d'Arnaud, Dickerson). **RISP:** Chicago 3for 9; Atlanta 2for 13. **Runners moved up:** Ozuna, d'Arnaud. **DP:** Atlanta 1(d'Arnaud, Albies, d'Arnaud).

CHI CUBS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Leiter Jr.	2	2	0	0	1	0	8.68
Thompson	3	3	1	1	2	3	0.54
Effross, H, 1	1	0	0	0	0	1	2.57
Martin, H, 2	1	0	0	0	0	1	4.05
Givens, BS, 1-2	⅔	3	2	2	1	2	3.52
Robertson, W, 1-0	1⅓	0	0	0	0	3	0.00
Wick, S, 1-1	1	0	0	0	0	2	1.35
ATLANTA	**IP**	**H**	**R**	**ER**	**BB**	**SO**	**ERA**
Morton	2⅓	4	3	3	4	1	7.00
Chavez	1⅔	2	0	0	0	3	3.86
McHugh	2	2	0	0	0	1	5.62
Minter	1	0	0	0	1	1	3.52
Woods	1	0	0	0	1	1	0.00
Jansen	1	0	0	0	0	1	3.38
Matzek, L, 0-1	⅔	3	3	2	0	2	3.68
Thornburg	⅓	0	0	0	0	0	1.80

Inherited runners-scored: Robertson 2-0, Chavez 2-0, Thornburg 1-0.
HBP: Leiter Jr. (d'Arnaud).
WP: Morton, McHugh, Matzek.
Umpires: Home, Alfonso Marquez; First, Quinn Wolcott; Second, Clint Vondrak; Third, Lance Barrett.
T: 4:04. **A:** 30,362 (41,084).

TODAY'S PITCHING COMPARISON

INTERLEAGUE			2022			2021 VS OPP			LAST 3 STARTS		
TM	**PITCHER**	**TIME**	**W-L**	**ERA**	**TR**	**W-L**	**IP**	**ERA**	**W-L**	**IP**	**ERA**
Sea	Brash (R)		1-1	4.20	2-1	0-0	0.0	0.00	1-1	15.0	4.20
Mia	Hernandez (R)	6:40p	1-1	5.87	2-1	0-0	0.0	0.00	1-1	15.1	5.87
Atl	Anderson (R)		1-1	5.40	1-2	0-0	0.0	0.00	1-1	13.1	5.40
Tex	Howard (R)	8:05p	0-1	14.40	1-0	0-0	0.0	0.00	0-1	10.2	12.66
Det	Alexander (L)		0-2	7.20	0-3	0-0	0.0	0.00	0-2	10.0	7.20
LAD	Anderson (L)	10:10p	1-0	2.84	0-1	1-0	5.0	3.60	0-1	10.1	5.23

AMERICAN LEAGUE			2022			2021 VS OPP			LAST 3 STARTS		
TM	**PITCHER**	**TIME**	**W-L**	**ERA**	**TR**	**W-L**	**IP**	**ERA**	**W-L**	**IP**	**ERA**
Bos	Hill (L)		0-1	4.85	1-2	1-0	10.2	4.22	0-1	13.0	4.85
Bal	Bradish (R)	7:05p	0-0	0.00	0-0	0-0	0.0	0.00	0-0	0.0	0.00
Hou	Urquidy (R)		1-1	5.52	1-2	0-0	5.2	3.18	1-1	14.2	5.52
Tor	Kikuchi (L)	7:07p	0-1	3.75	0-3	0-0	3.2	4.91	0-1	12.0	3.75
LAA	Syndergaard (R)		2-0	2.12	2-1	0-0	0.0	0.00	2-0	17.0	2.12
ChW	Giolito (R)	7:10p	0-0	1.12	0-2	0-0	9.1	4.82	0-0	13.0	1.38
Min	Bundy (R)		3-0	0.59	3-0	0-0	0.0	0.00	3-0	15.1	0.59
TB	Kluber (R)	7:10p	0-1	3.68	1-2	0-0	0.0	0.00	0-1	14.2	3.68
NYY	Cortes Jr. (L)		0-0	1.15	2-1	0-1	8.1	4.32	0-0	15.2	1.15
KC	Bubic (L)	8:10p	0-1	14.14	1-2	0-0	2.1	0.00	0-1	7.0	14.14
Cle	Civale (R)		0-2	9.58	1-2	0-0	0.0	0.00	0-2	10.1	9.58
Oak	Montas (R)	9:40p	2-2	3.28	2-2	0-1	12.0	2.25	2-1	19.2	1.83

NATIONAL LEAGUE			2022			2021 VS OPP			LAST 3 STARTS		
TEAM	**PITCHER**	**TIME**	**W-L**	**ERA**	**TR**	**W-L**	**IP**	**ERA**	**W-L**	**IP**	**ERA**
SD	Darvish (R)		1-1	4.43	2-2	1-0	12.2	2.13	1-1	14.1	6.28
Pit	Thompson (R)	6:35p	0-2	10.80	1-2	0-2	9.0	7.00	0-2	10.0	10.80
Phi	Nola (R)		1-2	3.74	1-3	0-1	3.1	8.10	0-2	15.2	2.87
NYM	Megill (R)	7:10p	3-0	2.35	4-0	1-0	5.1	0.00	2-0	18.0	3.00
ChC	Hendricks (R)		1-1	3.98	3-1	0-0	5.1	1.69	1-1	15.0	4.80
Mil	Houser (R)	8:10p	1-2	3.52	1-2	0-0	0.0	0.00	1-2	15.1	3.52
Ari	Bumgarner (L)		0-1	1.00	1-3	0-1	4.0	13.50	0-1	15.0	0.60
StL	Wainwright (R)	8:15p	2-2	3.86	2-2	1-0	5.0	7.20	1-2	15.0	5.40
Cin	Greene (R)		1-2	5.27	1-2	0-0	0.0	0.00	1-2	13.2	5.27
Col	Senzatela (R)	8:40p	1-1	4.72	2-1	0-1	13.0	4.15	1-1	13.1	4.73
Was	Sanchez (R)		0-1	8.31	0-1	0-1	4.1	8.31	0-1	10.1	7.84
SF	Wood (L)	10:15p	2-0	2.51	2-1	1-0	5.0	3.60	2-0	14.1	2.51

TR: Team's record in games started by today's pitcher.
Vs. Opp: Pitcher's record versus this opponent.

RESULTS, SCHEDULE

AMERICAN LEAGUE

THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Tampa Bay 2, Seattle 1
Minnesota 7, Detroit 1
Houston 3, Texas 2
N.Y. Yankees 10, Baltimore 5
Kansas City 5, Chi. White Sox 2 (10)
Toronto 1, Boston 0
L.A. Angels 4, Cleveland 1

SATURDAY'S GAMES
Houston at Toronto, 3:07p.m.
L.A. Angels at Chi. White Sox, 4:05p.m.
Cleveland at Oakland, 4:07p.m.
Minnesota at Tampa Bay, 4:10p.m.
Atlanta at Texas, 7:05p.m.
Boston at Baltimore, 7:05p.m.
N.Y. Yankees at Kansas City, 7:10p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS
Chi. White Sox 7, Kansas City 3
Tampa Bay 3, Seattle 2
N.Y. Yankees 5, Baltimore 2
Minnesota 5, Detroit 0
Boston 7, Toronto 1
Houston 4, Texas 3
Oakland 1, San Francisco 0
L.A. Angels 9, Cleveland 5

NATIONAL LEAGUE

THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Milwaukee 3, Pittsburgh 2
Miami 3, Washington 2
San Diego 7, Cincinnati 5
Philadelphia 7, Colorado 1
Chi. Cubs at Atlanta, late
Arizona at St. Louis, late

SATURDAY'S GAMES
Arizona at St. Louis, 2:15p.m.
Washington at San Francisco, 4:05p.m.
Seattle at Miami, 6:10p.m.
San Diego at Pittsburgh, 6:35p.m.
Chi. Cubs at Milwaukee, 7:10p.m.
Philadelphia at N.Y. Mets, 7:10p.m.
Cincinnati at Colorado, 8:10p.m.
Detroit at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS
St. Louis 10, N.Y. Mets 5
Arizona 3, L.A. Dodgers 1
Milwaukee 3, Pittsburgh 1
Philadelphia 7, Colorado 3
San Diego 8, Cincinnati 5
Miami 2, Washington 1
Chi. Cubs 6, Atlanta 3 (10)

AROUND THE HORN

■ **Braves:** OF Ronald Acuña Jr. was reinstated from the injury list Thursday, more than a week ahead of the team's target date for his return from knee surgery. Acuña hit leadoff and played right ield in Thursday night's game against the Cubs. That game ended too late for this edition. He may initially split time between right field and DH. The defending World Series champion Braves have struggled at the start of the season and will be looking for Acuña to provide a boost to their lineup after showing in his rehabilitation stint with Triple-A Gwinnett that he has recovered from the surgery that ended his 2021 season.

■ **Royals:** SS Adalberto Mondesi's season is in jeopardy after an MRI revealed a torn ACL in his left knee. Mondesi, 26, who played in only 35 games in 2021 because of left hamstring and left oblique injuries, had started 14 of 15 games. Mondesi, who was batting .140 (7-for-50) with five stolen bases in five attempts, suffered the injury on an attempted pickoff play Tuesday night against the White Sox. Nicky Lopez, who started 141 games at shortstop in 2021, likely will move from second base.

■ **Cardinals:** MLB suspended 3B Nolan Arenado and LHP Génesis Cabrera for their actions during a benches-clearing fracas Wednesday against the Mets. Arenado was banned two games and Cabrera one, and both have been fined undisclosed amounts. Arenado appealed and was in the lineup against the Diamondbacks. Cabrera served his ban during the game after pitching two innings Wednesday.

■ **Brewers:** Andrew McCutchen hit a go-ahead two-run single in the top of the ninth to rally the Brewers past the host Pirates 3-2 to complete a three-game sweep. McCutchen, a five-time All-Star with the Pirates, began the game with a leadoff HR — his first at PNC Park as a visitor — before delivering a single to right field off closer Chris Stratton (0-1) in the final frame. Hoby Milner (2-0) worked a perfect eighth to pick up the win. Devin Williams retired the Pirates in order in the ninth for his first save. The Brewers have won eight straight over the Pirates dating to last season.

■ **Marlins:** Trevor Rogers provided his longest outing of the season by allowing one run in six innings, and the Marlins stretched their winning streak to five games with a 3-2 sweep-completing road victory over the reeling Nationals. Rogers (1-3) came in with a 6.94 ERA but lowered that to 5.09 after giving up just two hits against a Nats lineup that has produced merely 16 runs during an eight-game losing skid. Cole Sulser worked around a lead-off walk in the ninth to get his first save of 2022 in his first chance. Patrick Corbin (0-4) lost again for the Nats, despite his best outing of the season, with three runs — two earned — and four hits in six-plus innings.

■ **Extra innings:** Zack Wheeler tossed one-hit ball over six shutout innings and Alec Bohm homered to help the Phillies complete a four-game sweep of the visiting Rockies with a 7-1 victory. Wheeler won his first game of the season. ... Taylor Ward drove in two runs, Brandon Marsh had three hits and an RBI, and the Angels completed a four-game sweep of the visiting Guardians with a 4-1 victory.

ON THIS DATE

APRIL 29

1918: Center fielder Tris Speaker executed the fourth unassisted double play of his career in the Cleveland Indians' 8-4 loss to the Chicago White Sox.
1922: The New York Giants hit four inside-the-park home runs in a 15-4 win at Braves Field in Boston. George Kelly hit two and Ross Youngs and Dave Bancroft hit the others. Youngs also hit for the cycle and added a double while going 5-for-5 and driving in five runs.
1931: Wes Ferrell of the Cleveland Indians pitched a 7-0 no-hitter over the St. Louis Browns, including his brother Rick. Wes also knocked in four runs with a homer and a double.
1933: In a strange play at home plate, catcher Luke Sewell of the Washington Senators tagged out two Yankees runners on the same play. Lou Gehrig had held up, thinking a fly ball would be caught. Dixie Walker closed up on him, and both were tagged out trying to score.
1981: Steve Carlton struck out Montreal's Tim Wallach in the first inning of the Phillies' 6-2 victory over the visiting Expos to become the sixth major league pitcher-- and first left-hander-- to strike out 3,000 batters.
1986: Roger Clemens set a major league record by striking out 20 batters as the Boston Red Sox defeated the Seattle Mariners 3-1.
1987: Andre Dawson had five hits and hit for the cycle to lead the Cubs to an 8-4 victory the San Francisco Giants.
1988: The Baltimore Orioles ended their 21-game losing streak by winning their first game of the season, 9-0 over the White Sox on a combined four-hitter by Mark Williamson and Dave Schmidt.
1990: After just five appearances with the Giants, Dan Quisenberry retires, deciding not to go on the disabled list for a torn rotator cuff. The 37 year-old right-handed reliever leaves the game after 12 seasons as the all-time American League save leader with 238.
2005: In the first matchup between 300-game winners in almost 18 years, the Cubs' Greg Maddux outdueled the Astros' Roger Clemens in Chicago's 3-2 win over Houston. Maddux earned his first win of season and 306th of his career, allowing two runs on seven hits over six innings.
2009: With a double off Philadelphia's Brett Myers, Ryan Zimmerman breaks his own Nationals team record by extending his hitting streak to 18 games. The Washington third baseman established the previous mark of 17 in 2006.
2007: Colorado shortstop Troy Tulowitzki had an unassisted triple play in the seventh inning of the Rockies' 9-7 win over Atlanta.
2015: In what was believed to be the first major league game played without fans in attendance, Chris Davis hit a three-run homer in a six-run first inning and the Baltimore Orioles beat the Chicago White Sox 8-2. After a pair of postponements caused by rioting in Baltimore, the Orioles and Chicago White Sox played at Camden Yards. The gates at Camden Yards were locked because of concern for fan safety following recent rioting in Baltimore after a 25-year-old black man died in police custody.
2017: Carlos Gomez hit for the cycle for the second time and Rougned Odor hit a tiebreaking two-run homer to help the Texas Rangers beat the Los Angeles Angels 6-3.
2017: Yasiel Puig, Cody Bellinger and Justin Turner hit consecutive homers off Hector Neris in the ninth, helping the Los Angeles Dodgers rally for a 6-5 win over the Philadelphia Phillies. Los Angeles trailed 5-2 before the three straight homers.

Jets

from Page 1

grown shutdown cornerback: Darrelle Revis, who went 14th overall in 2007.

"That's the main thing I know — when I think about the Jets, I think about Darrelle Revis," Gardner said during a Zoom call. "He used to be one of my favorite corners in the league. I still watch him to this day."

The Jets, who had two selections in the top 10 for the first time in franchise history, also have four picks in the first 38 selections. So it will be a busy first two nights of the draft for a franchise looking to end the NFL's longest active playoff drought at 11 seasons.

This is considered a crucial draft for general manager Joe Douglas, who is overseeing his third full offseason after being hired in June 2019 to replace the fired Mike Maccagnan. The Jets have won only six games the past two seasons, but showed some positive signs last season under first-year head coach Saleh and rookie quarterback Wilson.

The focus this offseason has been on the progress of Wilson, who capped a down-and-up year by not throwing an interception in his final five games. Surrounding last year's No. 2 overall pick with playmakers has been a priority for Douglas and the Jets, who signed tight ends C.J. Uzomah and Tyler Conklin, and guard Laken Tomlinson in free agency.

Wide receiver was expected to be a target early in this draft, and New York pounced on the speedy Wilson with their second pick of the night.

"What's better than 1 Wilson? 2 Wilsons," Zach Wilson wrote on Twitter shortly after the pick was announced. "Let's goooooooooo!!!!!!!"

But first, the Jets addressed their defense, which struggled mightily last season. Defensive coordinator Jeff Ulbrich's unit ranked last or close to the bottom of the league in several statistical categories. Edge rusher and cornerback were considered priorities for New York in the draft, and Gardner addresses that need in a major way.

"I know I'm going to be a great teammate and I'm going to be a sponge, somebody that's able to take information from everyone and not feeling like I'm too good for anyone," Gardner said. "Just being a hard worker."

Patriots coach Bill Belichick watches at Alabama's NFL Pro Day on March 30 in Tuscaloosa, Ala. **VASHA HUNT/AP**

NFL DRAFT COMMENTARY

Failure not an option for Patriots in draft

By Karen Guregian
Boston Herald

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — With the clock ticking closer to the 2022 NFL Draft, one familiar phrase comes to mind: failure is not an option.

If the Patriots' goal is to transition into what they hope will be the start of the third chapter of their dynasty, they can't produce a stinker of a class from this draft.

And given some not-so-subtle hints from Robert Kraft a month ago, the Patriots owner is expecting another fruitful draft to help return the franchise to glory.

After a largely unsuccessful 2020 campaign, the first without Tom Brady, the team did take a step forward last year. They got back to the playoffs, which was nice, but were one and done after getting blown out by the Buffalo Bills.

They also spent a ton of money to fortify their roster, plugging a ton of holes, while finally delivering in the draft after a succession of disappointments.

Most important, they drafted the quarterback who's expected to lead them back to the Promised Land, along with two other potential cornerstone players.

Mac Jones, who had the best year of any rookie quarterback in a loaded class, is the linchpin and biggest driver of success going forward. Defensive tackle Christian Barmore and running back Rhamondre Stevenson will also help the cause.

The expectation now is for even better things to come from that trio this year, along with the rest of the 2021 class. But it can't stop there.

The Patriots need to strike gold again with their picks — nine in all — even if four are in the last two rounds. Of course, this is the type of draft where Bill Belichick would like nothing better than to trade down, given the strength of the draft is considered to be on Day 2.

Whether he does trade out of the first round, or doesn't, really doesn't matter. As with any draft, it's about the players, and picking the right ones whether you move all over the draft board, or stand pat.

Belichick and his collection of evaluators, now led by personnel head Matt Groh, need to bring in impactful rookies at the positions of need, namely the offensive line, cornerback, linebacker and wide receiver.

So however Belichick chooses to manipulate the board, it doesn't matter as long as he brings in guys who can play, as opposed to being stuck with the N'Keal Harrys and Dominque Easleys of the world. They need to keep the ball rolling from last year.

They can't fall back into the draft dungeon they were stuck in from 2014-2020.

What will constitute another good draft for the Patriots?

NFL Network draft analyst Daniel Jeremiah provided the parameters on a recent video call with reporters.

"Look, there's some years you're going to know right away. I think we can all agree the Bengals had a good draft last year just because of what they got out of Ja'Marr Chase right out of the chute," said Jeremiah, a former NFL scout with the Ravens, Browns and Eagles. "Sometimes you're going to know right away, but in terms of like the collective of your picks, the goal, the teams that I was on, usually the aim was if you could get three starters in the draft, that's a really good draft."

Jeremiah said it's typically a three-year process to fully understand the scope of a draft class, and whether you hit the jackpot or not.

"So within three years if you had come out of that with three guys who are solid starters, guys you're not looking to replace, winning players would be another phrase you'd hear, that's a really, really solid draft," he said. "You get four? Man, you're cooking with gas when you get four."

During their championship runs, the Patriots were cooking with gas more times than not.

After 2000 brought sixth-round pick Brady, who singularly made that year a transformative draft, they started hitting early (Richard Seymour and Matt Light in 2001) and often (Dan Graham, Deion Branch, Jarvis Green, David Givens in 2002, with Ty Warren, Eugene Wilson, Asante Samuel, Dan Koppen in 2003).

They had a similar run in 2010 with future Patriots Hall of Famers Devin McCourty and Rob Gronkowskis, followed by Nate Solder, Shane Vereen, Steven Ridley and Marcus Cannon in 2011 and Chandler Jones and Dont'a Hightower arriving in 2012.

So the heat is on.

Whomever the Patriots select over the course of the next few days will either make or break their offseason and likely determine whether they'll improve on a 10-7 playoff campaign, or head in the opposite direction. With the rest of the AFC loading up, the Pats are already hard-pressed to keep up.

Their offseason approach — doing little in free agency this time around, while relying on trades and the draft — will come under greater scrutiny if they turn up another dud with this draft class. But score big once again, and the Pats should be able to avoid going backwards, especially if Jones makes the expected Year 2 leap.

GIANTS

Team declines Jones' 5th-year option, picks up DT Lawrence's

By Pat Leonard
New York Daily News

NEW YORK — Daniel Jones has one more season at most — and only one — to prove he's the Giants' quarterback of the future.

As expected, GM Joe Schoen decided on Thursday that he will not pick up the fifth-year option on Jones' rookie contract as a former first-round pick, a source confirmed.

Leaking that decision only hours before Thursday night's NFL Draft first round served as a reminder that the Giants are far from set at the sport's most important position.

Picking up Jones' option would have guaranteed him a $22.384 million salary for the 2023 season, per sources.

It wouldn't have made sense for the Giants to lock themselves into that number given that the new regime is in wait-and-see mode on Jones' ability.

If Jones falters this fall, the Giants will be in the market for a new quarterback in the 2023 NFL Draft.

If Jones plays well and proves his worth, the Giants still have the franchise tag (projected at $31.497 million by overthecap.com) and transition tag ($28.337 million) available to keep him under contract in 2023.

So this is essentially a $5.9 million-to $9.1 million gamble.

That extra cost also probably would be negligible if Jones, 24, played great this season. The Giants and Jones' agents likely would be working on a contract extension anyway.

The Giants did pick up the fifth-year option on defensive tackle Dexter Lawrence for 2023 on Thursday, a source confirmed.

That guarantees Lawrence a salary of $10.753 million for that season. And Lawrence, 24, still has a chance to earn an extension and fold that money into it, too.

The timing of the Jones decision was interesting, though, considering the Giants did due diligence on this year's quarterback class that includes names like Liberty's Malik Willis, Pitt's Kenny Pickett, UNC's Sam Howell, Ole Miss' Matt Corral and Cincinnati's Desmond Ridder.

But co-owner John Mara said on the record that he'd be surprised if Jones isn't his Week 1 starter this fall. And ownership enjoyed the fact that many GM candidates told the Giants they had faith in Jones in January.

The 2023 quarterback class also is expected to be much richer than this year's, headlined by Alabama's Bryce Young and Ohio State's C.J. Stroud.

The only problem is the Giants will have competition if they're trying to draft a QB next year.

Entering Thursday night, the Giants held only one pick in the 2023 NFL Draft's first round, while several teams already have two: the division rival Philadelphia Eagles, Houston Texans, Seattle Seahawks, Detroit Lions and Miami Dolphins.

Since the Giants are rebuilding, Schoen has been making or taking calls on many of his current roster's most talented players, from Saquon Barkley to James Bradberry to Kadarius Toney.

But the GM has to be careful he doesn't tear this down so far that he doesn't give Jones a fair crack at a winning roster in 2022.

Schoen has said he wants to compete today while building for tomorrow. The reality is that the long term is the priority for the Giants, and has to be, while it's 2022 or bust for Jones.

It will be fascinating to see if the Giants can turn this around quickly for Jones' sake, and if Jones will be capable of doing his part.

Giants

from Page 1

the Giants sprinted to pick Thibodeaux knowing that with the seventh overall pick they would be able to get at least their second favorite lineman. After Carolina selected Ickey Ekwonu from NC State with the sixth overall pick and the first offensive player of the draft, the Giants took Evan Neal from Alabama. Neal was considered to be a candidate for the first overall pick as recently as the Combine. He figures to start at right tackle, where he played some in college, with third-year veteran Andrew Thomas entrenched at left tackle.

If the name of the game in today's NFL is getting after and protecting the quarterback, the Giants were able to improve their chances at both in the matter of a half hour.

Prior to the draft Joe Schoen said his goal was to find at least seven players he liked at the top of the class knowing he would be guaranteed an opportunity to get two of them. "And I can sleep good at night," he said. By the time Thursday came around his list had swelled to nearly a dozen names, giving him the option of trading back a few spots with either pick.

His stated philosophy as the start of first round neared was simple: Don't get cute.

"I think where we are in our roster, there's several needs," he said last week. "To put a finger on what exactly the biggest need is would be difficult. If you can find two really good football players at five and seven, that's how we stacked the board. Let's just throw need, whatever perceived need there is, out. Who are the best football players in this draft?"

"I don't think you can go wrong with drafting good football players."

The Giants had used heir first pick to select an offensive player in each of the previous five drafts and nine of the past 10.

As general manager Schoen was the one who made the pick, but he was very aware of how Brian Daboll and the coaching staff felt about his selections.

"To me, the biggest thing is the collaboration between the coaching staff and the personnel staff," he said. "It doesn't make sense to draft a guy if the coaches want no part of him. They're dead on arrival. If they're worried about his hands, he drops a ball, they're up in my office saying 'I told you he couldn't catch!' "

Alleyne

from Page 1

"This young man, he's top notch. He could score 25 points in a game, come over and talk to her just the same if he's played a bad game and shot 2 for 10 and scored six. He knows she's waiting for him and when he comes out of that locker room he makes it a point, no matter how good or how bad the evening has been, he always comes over and thanks her for coming to the game. It's just special.

Dani Jo follows basketball closely, is aware of players all over the country, and understands the transfer portal is now part of the game, her father says.

"She gets close to somebody and then they'll transfer to the West Coast," Joey Hearl said, "it's good and bad. But she's a tough little kid, and just because you move away and transfer somewhere else, it doesn't mean she's not going to try to find a way to see you play."

Her message to UConn fans concluded with, "You-all better take good care of him up there. Nahiem, I love you and I'm going to miss you. You're going to be great at Connecticut. Go Huskies and go Hokies!"

High-profile UConn fan Marc D'Amelio, social media personality and father of TikTok stars Dixie and Charli D'Amelio, immediately stepped up with an offer to bring the Hearls from their home in Mount Airy, North Carolina to Connecticut for some Husky-style hospitality.

"This is beautiful," D'Amelio tweeted. "The D'Amelio Family would love to host you in Storrs for game. Pick the game and we'll take care of everything. Flights, hotel, transportation, tickets."

Dani Jo's message touched the hearts of UConn fans. Huskies faithful on Twitter assured her Alleyne will be welcomed in Connecticut.

"We got you, Dani Jo," one tweeted.

"Well, this is awesome and you better believe we're gonna take great care of him for you," read another response.

Joey Hearl, a school principal, saw the responses from UConn fans on Thursday and found it "overwhelming." He is not sure if Dani Jo would be able to fly with her medical condition, but is willing to drive up for a game next season, and planned to give Dani Jo the news when he got home.

"I checked Twitter during lunch and my notifications were blowing up and I was like, 'Wow,' " he said. "She has had love from different schools before when someone has transferred, but nothing like what has transpired the last 12 hours from UConn. It has just been over the top. We're definitely going to find a way to make that happen and get up for a game, absolutely."

Dom Amore can be reached at damore@courant.com

Virginia Tech's Nahiem Alleyne passes the ball against Duke on Dec. 22 in Durham, N.C. He will play at UConn in 2022-23. **BEN MCKEOWN/AP**

SCOREBOARD

NBA

PLAYOFF SCHEDULE
EAST CONFERENCE FIRST ROUND
(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)
#1 Miami 4, #8 Atlanta 1
April 17: Miami 115-91
April 19: Miami 115-105
April 22: Atlanta 111-110
April 24: Miami 110-86
April 26: Miami 97-94

#2 Boston 4, #7 Brooklyn 0

#3 Milwaukee 4, #6 Chicago 1
April 17: Milwaukee 93-86
April 20: Chicago 114-109
April 22: Milwaukee 111-81
April 24: Milwaukee 119-95.
April 27: Milwaukee 116-100

#4 Philadelphia 3, #5 Toronto 2
April 16: Philadelphia 131-111
April 18: Philadelphia 112-97
April 20: Philadelphia 104-101 (OT)
April 23: Toronto 110-102
April 25: Toronto 103-88
Thursday: at Toronto, late
x-Saturday: at Philadelphia, TBD

EAST CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS
#2 Boston vs. #3 Milwaukee
Sunday: at Boston, 1 p.m.
Tuesday: at Boston, TBD
May 7: at Milwaukee, TBD
May 9: at Milwaukee, TBD
x-May 11: at Boston, TBD
x-May 13: at Milwaukee, TBD
x-May 15: at Boston, TBD

WEST CONFERENCE FIRST ROUND
#1 Phoenix 3, #8 New Orleans 2
April 17: Phoenix 110-99
April 19: New Orleans 125-114
April 22: Phoenix 114-111
April 24: New Orleans 118-103
April 26: Phoenix 112-97
Thursday: at New Orleans, late
x-Saturday: at Phoenix, TBD

#2 Memphis 3, #7 Minnesota 2
April 16: Minnesota 130-117
April 19: Memphis 124-96
April 21: Memphis 104-95
April 23: Minnesota 119-118
April 26: Memphis 111-109
Friday: at Minnesota, 9 p.m.
x-Sunday: at Memphis, 3:30 p.m.

#3 Golden State 4, #6 Denver 1
April 16: Golden State 123-107
April 18: Golden State 126-106
April 21: Golden State 118-113
April 24: Denver 126-121
April 27: Golden State 102-98

#4 Dallas 3, #5 Utah 2
April 16: Utah 99-93
April 18: Dallas 110-104
April 21: Dallas 126-118
April 23: Utah 100-99
April 25: Dallas 102-77
Thursday: at Utah, late
x-Saturday: at Dallas, TBD

MOST PLAYOFF GAMES WITH 30+ POINTS, 10+ REBOUNDS

PLAYER	P	SEASONS		G
LeBron James	F	2006	2020	59
Elgin Baylor	F	1959	1970	53
Kareem Abdul-Jabbar	C	1970	1985	52
Shaquille O'Neal	C	1995	2006	49
Wilt Chamberlain	C	1960	1970	42
Karl Malone	F	1988	2004	42
Hakeem Olajuwon	C	1985	1997	39
Tim Duncan	F	1998	2013	32
Bob Pettit	F	1957	1963	31
Dirk Nowitzki	F	2001	2011	29
Larry Bird	F	1980	1987	25
Charles Barkley	F	1986	1999	23
Kevin Durant	F	2011	2021	23
Giannis Antetokounmpo	F	2018	2022	22
Moses Malone	C	1977	1987	17

TENNIS

MUTUA MADRID OPEN
At Caja Magica, Madrid,
Red clay-outdoors
WOMEN'S SINGLESROUND OF 64
#2 Paula Badosa d. Veronika Kudermetova, 6-3, 6-0.
Amanda Anisimova d. #3Aryna Sabalenka, 6-2, 3-6, 6-4.
Marie Bouzkova d. #5 Karolina Pliskova, 6-4, 7-5.
#8 Ons Jabeur d. Jasmine Paolini, 7-6(9), 6-1.
Ekaterina Alexandrova d. #10 Jelena Ostapenko, 6-2, 4-6, 6-4.
#11 Belinda Bencic d. Irina-Camelia Begu, 6-4, 6-1.
#14 Coco Gauff d. Anna-Karolina Schmiedlova, 6-0, 6-2.
#15 Victoria Azarenka d. Viktorija Golubic, 7-6(5), 6-3.
Nuria Parrizas Diaz d. Sorana Cirstea, 6-4, 6-2.
Karolina Muchova d. Zheng Qinwen, 1-6, 6-3, 6-4.
Simona Halep d. Zhang Shuai, 6-2, 6-3.
Dayana Yastremska d. Greet Minnen, 6-3, 0-2, retired.
Tamara Zidansek d. Beatriz Haddad Maia, 6-2, 6-3.
Petra Martic d. Liudmila Samsonova, 7-6(6), 6-1.
Varvara Gracheva d. Alize Cornet, 1-6, 7-5, 7-5.
Yulia Putintseva d. Shelby Rogers, 7-5, 7-5.

ATP MILLENNIUM ESTORIL OPEN
At Clube de Tenis do Estoril,
Estoril, Portugal, Red clay-outdoors
MEN'S SINGLESROUND OF 16
#1 Felix Auger-Aliassime d. Carlos Taberner, 1-6, 6-2, 6-2.
Sebastian Baez d. #3 Marin Cilic, 1-6, 6-1, 6-4.
#8 Sebastian Korda d. Benjamin Bonzi, 6-3, 6-3.
Richard Gasquet d. Hugo Dellien, 7-6(5), 6-2.

ATP BMW OPEN BY AMERICAN EXPRESS
At MTTC Iphitos, Munich, Red-clay-out
MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 16
#2 Casper Ruud d. Alex Molcan, 3-6, 6-4, 6-4.
Oscar Otte d. #3 Reilly Opelka, 7-6(4), 6-2.
#8 Botic Van de Zandschulp d. Egor Gerasimov, 6-2, 6-3.
Alejandro Tabilo d. Hugo Gaston, 6-2, 2-6, 4-1, retired.

ODDS

MLB **FRIDAY**
NATIONAL LEAGUE

FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	LINE
San Diego	-165	at Pittsburgh	+142
at NY Mets	-116	Philadelphia	-104
at Milwaukee	off	Chi Cubs	off
at St. Louis	-163	Arizona	+142
at Colorado	-114	Cincinnati	-106
at San Francisco	-206	Washington	+174
AMERICIAN LEAGUE			
at Baltimore	off	Boston	off
at Toronto	-121	Houston	+101
at Chi Wh. Sox	-122	LA Angels	+102
at Tampa Bay	-128	Minnesota	+108
N.Y Yankees	-172	at Kansas City	+148
at Oakland	-135	Cleveland	+115
INTERLEAGUE			
Seattle	-127	at Miami	+107
at Texas	off	Atlanta	off
at LA Dodgers	-234	Detroit	+190

NBA PLAYOFFS **FRIDAY**

FAVORITE	LINE	O/U	UNDERDOG
Memphis	1½	(229)	at Minnesota
			SUNDAY
at Boston	4½	(218½)	Milwaukee

ODDS TO WIN SERIES
Boston -185 Milwaukee +150

NHL **FRIDAY**

FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	LINE
at Philadelphia	off	Ottawa	off
at Montreal	off	Florida	off
at NY Rangers	off	Washington	off
at Toronto	off	Boston	off
at Pittsburgh	off	Columbus	off
at Buffalo	off	Chicago	off
at New Jersey	off	Detroit	off
at NY Islanders	off	Tampa Bay	off
at Minnesota	off	Colorado	off
at Winnipeg	off	Calgary	off
at St. Louis	off	Vegas	off
at Dallas	off	Anaheim	off
at Edmonton	off	Vancouver	off
at Seattle	off	San Jose	off
at Arizona	off	Nashville	off

For the latest odds, go to FanDuel Sportsbook, https://sportsbook.fanduel.com/

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC	GP	W	L	OT	PT	GF	GA
z-Florida	80	57	17	6	120	334	236
x-Toronto	81	53	21	7	113	310	251
x-Tampa Bay	80	50	22	8	108	279	224
x-Boston	80	50	25	5	105	248	215
Buffalo	80	31	38	11	73	229	283
Detroit	81	31	40	10	72	225	309
Ottawa	80	32	41	7	71	223	260
Montreal	81	21	49	11	53	211	317
METRO.	**GP**	**W**	**L**	**OT**	**PT**	**GF**	**GA**
y-Carolina	81	53	20	8	114	272	199
x-N.Y. Rangers	81	51	24	6	108	251	205
x-Pittsburgh	81	45	25	11	101	267	226
x-Washington	80	44	24	12	100	272	237
N.Y. Islanders	80	36	34	10	82	222	230
Columbus	80	36	37	7	79	254	293
New Jersey	80	27	44	9	63	242	296
Philadelphia	81	25	45	11	61	209	294

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OT	PT	GF	GA
z-Colorado	80	56	18	6	118	307	225
x-Minnesota	80	51	22	7	109	303	250
x-St. Louis	81	49	21	11	109	307	235
x-Dallas	81	45	30	6	96	234	244
x-Nashville	80	44	29	7	95	257	243
Winnipeg	80	37	32	11	85	245	253
Chicago	81	28	42	11	67	217	288
Arizona	81	24	50	7	55	202	309
PACIFIC	**GP**	**W**	**L**	**OT**	**PT**	**GF**	**GA**
y-Calgary	80	50	20	10	110	290	202
x-Edmonton	80	47	27	6	100	282	246
x-Los Angeles	81	44	27	10	98	237	233
Vegas	81	42	31	8	92	259	244
Vancouver	80	39	30	11	89	244	231
San Jose	80	32	36	12	76	210	256
Anaheim	81	31	36	14	76	230	267
Seattle	80	26	48	6	58	210	281

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.
x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division
z-clinched conference

THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Buffalo at Boston, late
Florida at Ottawa, late
New Jersey at Carolina, late
Tampa Bay at Columbus, late
Washington at N.Y. Islanders, late
Calgary at Minnesota, late
Nashville at Colorado, late
San Jose at Edmonton, late
Los Angeles at Vancouver, late

FRIDAY'S GAMES
Boston at Toronto, 7p.m.
Chicago at Buffalo, 7p.m.
Columbus at Pittsburgh, 7p.m.
Detroit at New Jersey, 7p.m.
Florida at Montreal, 7p.m.
Ottawa at Philadelphia, 7p.m.
Washington at N.Y. Rangers, 7p.m.
Tampa Bay at N.Y. Islanders, 7:30p.m.
Calgary at Winnipeg, 8p.m.
Colorado at Minnesota, 8p.m.
Vegas at St. Louis, 8p.m.
Anaheim at Dallas, 8:30p.m.
Vancouver at Edmonton, 9p.m.
San Jose at Seattle, 10p.m.
Nashville at Arizona, 10:30p.m.

SATURDAY'S GAMES
No games schedule

SUNDAY'S GAME
Seattle at Winnipeg, 2p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS
Winnipeg 4, Philadelphia 0
Montreal 4, N.Y. Rangers 3
Chicago 4, Vegas 3 (SO)
Arizona 4, Dallas 3 (OT)
Los Angeles 5, Seattle 3

SOCCER

MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER

EASTERN	W	L	T	PT	GF	GA
Philadelphia	5	1	2	17	12	5
N.Y. Red Bulls	4	2	2	14	13	6
Orlando City	4	3	2	14	10	10
Atlanta	3	3	2	11	10	11
Toronto FC	3	3	2	11	15	17
CF Montréal	3	3	2	11	14	17
New York City FC	3	3	1	10	16	10
Charlotte FC	3	5	1	10	8	11
Inter Miami CF	3	4	1	10	9	16
Chicago	2	2	4	10	5	5
D.C. United	3	4	0	9	10	10
Columbus	2	3	3	9	10	9
New England	2	5	1	7	12	16
Cincinnati	2	5	1	7	9	16
WESTERN	**W**	**L**	**T**	**PT**	**GF**	**GA**
Los Angeles FC	6	1	1	19	19	8
Austin FC	5	1	2	17	20	7
LA Galaxy	5	2	1	16	10	6
FC Dallas	4	1	3	15	12	5
Minnesota United	4	2	2	14	11	6
Real Salt Lake	3	2	4	13	9	13
Houston	3	2	3	12	11	9
Nashville	3	3	2	11	8	9
Portland	2	2	5	11	10	13
Colorado	2	3	3	9	9	11
Seattle	2	4	1	7	9	11
Sporting KC	2	6	1	7	6	14
San Jose	1	4	3	6	15	20
Vancouver	1	6	1	4	6	17

SATURDAY'S MATCHES
Austin FC at Houston, 1:30p.m.
Cincinnati at Toronto FC, 3p.m.
LA Galaxy at Real Salt Lake, 3:30p.m.
Atlanta at CF Montréal, 4p.m.
Miami at New England, 7:30p.m.
Charlotte FC at Orlando City, 7:30p.m.
D.C. United at Columbus, 7:30p.m.
N.Y. Red Bulls at Chicago, 8p.m.
FC Dallas at Sporting KC, 8:30p.m.
Portland at Colorado, 9p.m.

SUNDAY'S MATCHES
San Jose at New York City FC, 1p.m.
Philadelphia at Nashville, 4p.m.
Minnesota at Los Angeles FC, 10p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S MATCH
Toronto FC at Cincinnati, 7:30p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 7
Miami at Charlotte FC, 3:30p.m.
Orlando City at CF Montréal, 4p.m.
Chicago at Atlanta, 6p.m.
Portland at N.Y. Red Bulls, 7p.m.
Sporting KC at New York City FC, 7p.m.
Houston at D.C. United, 7:30p.m.
Columbus at New England, 7:30p.m.
Cincinnati at Minnesota, 8p.m.
Seattle at FC Dallas, 8:30p.m.
Colorado at San Jose, 10p.m.
Philadelphia at Los Angeles FC, 11p.m.

NWSL CHALLENGE CUP
WEDNESDAY'S SEMIFINALS
OL Reign (4-0-2) vs. Washington (2-0-4), 8p.m., Segra Field, Leesburg, Va., 8p.m.
North Carolina (3-0-3) vs. Kansas City (4-1-1), Children's Mercy Park, Kansas City, Kan., 10p.m.

CHAMPIONSHIP: SATURDAY, MAY 7
Semifinals winners, 1 p.m.

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

CLUB	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	PT
Man City	33	25	5	3	80	21	80
Liverpool	33	24	7	2	85	22	79
Chelsea	33	19	9	5	68	28	66
Arsenal	33	19	3	11	52	40	60
Tottenham	33	18	4	11	56	38	58
Man United	35	15	10	10	54	52	55
West Ham	34	15	7	12	52	44	52
Wolverhampton	33	15	4	14	33	29	49
Newcastle	34	11	10	13	40	55	43
Leicester	32	11	9	12	47	51	42
Brighton	34	9	14	11	31	42	41
Brentford	34	11	7	16	41	49	40
Southampton	34	9	13	12	40	56	40
Crystal Palace	33	8	14	11	43	41	38
Aston Villa	32	11	4	17	42	46	37
Leeds	33	8	10	15	38	68	34
Burnley	33	6	13	14	29	45	31
Everton	32	8	5	19	34	55	29
Watford	33	6	4	23	31	67	22
Norwich	33	5	6	22	22	69	21

THURSDAY'S RESULT
Manchester United 1, Chelsea 1

SATURDAY'S MATCHES
Newcastle vs. Liverpool, 7:30a.m.
Aston Villa vs. Norwich, 10a.m.
Southampton vs. Crystal Palace, 10a.m.
Watford vs. Burnley, 10a.m.
Wolverhampton vs. Brighton, 10a.m.
Leeds vs. Man City, 12:30p.m.

SUNDAY'S MATCHES
Everton vs. Chelsea, 9a.m.
Tottenham vs. Leicester, 9a.m.
West Ham vs. Arsenal, 11:30a.m.

NFL

DRAFT SELECTIONS
At Linq Promenade, Paradise, Nev.
denotes picks involved in trades that are conditional

FIRST ROUND
1. Jax: Travon Walker, DE, Georgia
2. Det: Aidan Hutchinson, DE, Michigan
3. Hou: Derek Stingley Jr., CB, LSU
4. NYJ: Ahmad Gardner, CB, Cincinnati
5. NYG: Kayvon Thibodeaux, DE, Oregon
6. Car: Ikem Ekwonu, OT, N.C. State
7. NYG: Evan Neal, OL, Alabama
8. Atlanta
9. Seattle
10. N.Y. Jets
11. Washington
12. Minnesota
13. Houston
14. Baltimore
15. Philadelphia
16. New Orleans
17. L.A. Chargers
18. Philadelphia
19. New Orleans
20. Pittsburgh
21. New England
22. Green Bay
23. Arizona
24. Dallas
25. Buffalo
26. Tennessee
27. Tampa Bay
28. Green Bay
29. Kansas City
30. Kansas City
31. Cincinnati
32. Detroit

Rounds 2-3: Friday
Rounds 4-7: Saturday

RECENT 1ST OVERALL PICKS
2021 Jax: Trevor Lawrence, QB, Clemson
2020 Cin: Joe Burrow, QB, LSU
2019 Ari: Kyler Murray, QB, Oklahoma
2018 Cle: Baker Mayfield, QB, Oklahoma
2017 Cle: Myles Garrett, DE, Texas A&M
2016 L.A. Rams: Jared Goff, QB, Cal
2015 TB: Jameis Winston, QB, Fla. St.
2014 Hou: Jadeveon Clowney, DE, South Carolina
2013 KC: Eric Fisher, OT, Cent. Michigan
2012 Ind: Andrew Luck, QB, Stanford
2011 Car: Cam Newton, QB, Auburn
2010 StL: Sam Bradford, QB, Oklahoma
2009 Det: Matt Stafford, QB, Georgia
2008 Miami: Jake Long, OT, Michigan
2007 Oak: JaMarcus Russell, QB, LSU
2006 Hou: Mario Williams, DE, NC State
2005 SF: Alex Smith, QB, Utah
2004 SD: Eli Manning, QB Mississippi
2003 Cin: Carson Palmer, QB, USC
2002 Hou: David Carr, QB, Fresno St.
2001 Atl: Mike Vick, QB, Virginia Tech
2000 Cle: Courtney Brown, De, Penn St.
1999 Cle: Tim Couch, QB, Kentucky
1998 Ind: Peyton Manning, QB, Tennessee
1997 StL: Orlando Pace, OT, Ohio State
1996 NYJ: Keyshawn Johnson, WR, USC
1995 Cin: Ki-Jana Carter, HB, Penn State

USFL

All games in Birmingham, Ala.

NORTH	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
New Jersey	1	1	0	.500	34	34
Philadelphia	1	1	0	.500	47	46
Michigan	0	2	0	.000	18	27
Pittsburgh	0	2	0	.000	26	47
SOUTH	**W**	**L**	**T**	**PCT**	**PF**	**PA**
New Orleans	2	0	0	1.000	57	20
Birmingham	2	0	0	1.000	61	52
Houston	1	1	0	.500	45	45
Tampa Bay	1	1	0	.500	20	37

WEEK 3
SATURDAY'S GAMES
Tampa Bay at Houston, 4p.m.
Pittsburgh at Michigan, 8p.m.

SUNDAY'S GAMES
Birmingham at New Orleans, 2:30p.m.
New Jersey at Philadlephia, 8p.m.

USFL WEEK 1 LEADERS

PASS YARDS	YDS	TD	I
Bryan Scott, Phi	474	4	2
Kyle Sloter, NO	416	2	1
J'Mar Smith, Birm	385	3	1
Josh Love, Pit	357	2	2
Shea Patterson, Mich	316	1	0
Jordan Ta'amu, TB	247	1	3
Default Headshot, NJ	240	2	1
Clayton Thorson, Hou	214	3	4

RECEIVING YARDS	REC	YDS	TD
Bailey Gaither, Pit	10	159	1
Osirus Mitchell, Birm	8	144	2
Cheyenne O'Grady, TB	10	107	0
Randy Satterfield, NJ	6	103	1
Jonathan Adams, NO	6	102	0
Lance Lenoir Jr., Mich	10	94	1
Marlon Williams, Birm	3	88	1
Maurice Alexander, Phi	8	87	2

RUSHING YARDS	CAR	YDS	TD
Mark Thompson, Hou	29	163	0
Jordan Ellis, NO	39	153	1
Garrett Groshek, Pit	34	132	0
De'Andre Johnson, NJ	22	125	1
Darius Victor, NJ	26	107	1
T.J. Logan Jr., NO	25	99	2
CJ Marable, Birm	23	98	2
Stevie Scott III, Mich	25	98	1

SCORING	PT	TD	P	RUN	REC
Br. Scott, Phi	33	5	4	1	0
J. Smith, Bir	24	4	3	1	-
Ky. Sloter, NO	22	3	2	1	

TACKLES	SOLO	A	TCK	I
Donald Payne, Hou	21	13	34	0
Josh Banderas, Phi	12	9	21	0
Kyahva Tezino, Pit	14	7	21	1
Manny Bunch, Hou	10	9	19	0
Vontae Diggs, NO	14	5	19	1
Jerod Fernandez, NO	12	7	19	0
Frank Ginda, Mich	9	10	19	0
DeMarquis Gates, Birm	13	4	17	0
Terry Myrick, Mich	14	3	17	0
Chris Orr, NJ	7	10	17	0

SACKS	SCK	YDS	FF
Davin Bellamy, NO	4.0	22	0
Carlo Kemp, Pit	2.5	9	1
DeMarquis Gates, Birm	2.0	8	0
Chris Odom, Hou	2.0	16	1
Ahmad Gooden, Hou	2.0	11	3
Kamilo Tongamoa, NO	2.0	15	0

INTERCEPTIONS	INT	YDS	TD
Lorenzo Burns, Birm	2	26	0
Channing Stribling. Phi	2	32	0
Will Likely, Hou	2	69	1

source: foxsports.com

AUTO RACING

MANUFACTURERS STANDINGS

RK	MAKE	PTS	PB	W
1	Chevrolet	371	--	6
2	Toyota	342	-29	2
3	Ford	337	-34	2

DRIVER POINT STANDINGS

DRIVER	W	T5	T10	PTS
Chase Elliott	0	1	7	368
Ryan Blaney	0	4	6	347
William Byron	2	4	4	334
Kyle Busch	1	3	7	312
Alex Bowman	1	2	6	309
Joey Logano	0	3	5	308
Kyle Larson	1	5	5	299
Martin Truex, Jr.	0	2	5	298
Ross Chastain	2	6	6	292
Aric Almirola	0	1	4	265
Kevin Harvick	0	1	4	252
Chase Briscoe	1	2	3	246
Austin Dillon	0	3	5	245
Christopher Bell	0	1	4	243
Tyler Reddick	0	3	4	242
Austin Cindric	1	1	2	238
Erik Jones	0	1	3	231
Kurt Busch	0	2	4	218
Daniel Suarez	0	2	3	218
Chris Buescher	0	0	2	196
Bubba Wallace	0	1	1	193
Justin Haley	0	0	0	183
Michael McDowell	0	0	3	181
Denny Hamlin	1	1	1	178
Ty Dillon	0	0	1	170
Cole Custer	0	0	0	167
Todd Gilliland	0	0	0	142
Corey LaJoie	0	1	1	140
Brad Keselowski	0	0	1	132
Harrison Burton	0	0	0	130
Ricky Stenhouse, Jr.	0	0	1	128
Cody Ware	0	0	0	88
B.J. McLeod	0	0	0	71

GOLF

CATALUNYA CHAMPIONSHIP
1st of 4 rounds, Stadium Course, Girona, Spain, 7,353 yards; Par: 72

66 (-6)	
Oliver Bekker	33-33
Darren Fichardt	34-32
Jeff Winther	33-33
67 (-5)	
Sebastian Heisele	32-35
Hao-Tong Li	34-33
James Morrison	37-30
68 (-4)	
Adri Arnaus	34-34
Julien Brun	36-32
Hennie Du Plessis	35-33
Jean-Baptiste Gonnet	37-31
Lukas Nemecz	34-34
69 (-3)	
Thomas Bjorn	33-36
David Drysdale	32-37
Daniel Gavins	34-35
Ricardo Gouveia	32-37
Nicolai Hojgaard	34-35
Richard McEvoy	34-35
Thorbjorn Olesen	37-32
Justin Walters	35-34
70 (-2)	
Laurie Canter	34-36
Grant Forrest	32-38
Joachim B. Hansen	34-36
Marcus Helligkilde	35-35
Mikko Korhonen	36-34
Thriston Lawrence	35-35
Richard Mansell	35-35
Yannik Paul	36-34
Adrien Saddier	36-34
Ricardo Santos	34-36
Nicolai Von Dellingshausen	36-34
71 (-1)	
Pep Angles	36-35
Lucas Bjerregaard	35-36
Jorge Campillo	34-37
Ivan Cantero Gutierrez	35-36
Ewen Ferguson	35-36
Ryan Fox	35-36
Lorenzo Gagli	35-36
Gavin Green	37-34
Angel Hidalgo	34-37
Raphael Jacquelin	36-35
Adrian Meronk	35-36
Niklas Norgaard Moller	35-36
Andrea Pavan	34-37
Antoine Rozner	35-36
Matthias Schmid	36-35
Marcel Schneider	35-36
Jordan L. Smith	36-35
Joel Stalter	35-36
Johannes Veerman	35-36
Fabrizio Zanotti	36-35
72 (even)	
Maverick Antcliff	35-37
Alejandro Canizares	38-34
Alejandro Del Rey Gonzalez	35-37
Ross Fisher	35-37
Sebastian Garcia Rodriguez	36-36
Julien Guerrier	36-36
Rasmus Hojgaard	36-36
Rikard Karlberg	36-36
Sihwan Kim	35-37
Espen Kofstad	36-36
Jacques Kruyswijk	37-35
Frederic Lacroix	37-35
Romain Langasque	35-37
Pablo Larrazabal	37-35
David Law	34-38
Zander Lombard	35-37
Tom McKibbin	35-37
Guido Migliozzi	38-34
Zach Murray	34-38
Renato Paratore	36-36
Tapio Pulkkanen	37-35
Lars Van Meijel	37-35
Andrew Wilson	33-39
73 (+1)	
Wil Besseling	39-34
Alexander Bjork	36-37
Richard Bland	36-37
Jonathan Caldwell	38-35
Dave Coupland	37-36
Eduardo De La Riva	35-38
Oliver Farr	37-36
Scott Hend	35-38
David Howell	37-36
Niklas Lemke	36-37
Hurly Long	37-36
Mike Lorenzo-Vera	35-38
Ross McGowan	36-37
Edoardo Molinari	35-38
Chris Paisley	34-39
Eddie Pepperell	36-37
Richie Ramsay	36-37
Sami Valimaki	35-38
Darius Van Driel	36-37
Bernd Wiesberger	35-38
Oliver Wilson	36-37

PGA TOUR STATISTICS
Driving Distance
1, Cameron Champ, 321.1. 2, Jhonattan Vegas, 317.7. 3, Wyndham Clark, 317.5. 4, Cameron Young, 317.4. 5, Matthew Wolff, 316.5. 6, Joseph Bramlett, 316.4. 7 (tie), Luke List and Trey Mullinax, 315.6. 9, Brandon Hagy, 314.5. 10, Taylor Pendrith, 314.1.
Driving Accuracy Percentage
1, Ryan Armour, 72.12%. 2, Brian Stuard, 71.12%. 3, Tyler Duncan, 70.37%. 4, Henrik Stenson, 69.44%. 5, Chez Reavie, 69.42%. 6, Kevin Streelman, 69.34%. 7, Kevin Kisner, 68.81%. 8, Abraham Ancer, 68.77%. 9, Jim Herman, 68.75%. 10, Austin Cook, 68.69%.
Greens in Regulation Percentage
1, Jon Rahm, 73.53%. 2, Russell Knox, 73.35%. 3, Corey Conners, 71.63%. 4, Seamus Power, 71.44%. 5, Collin Morikawa, 71.30%. 6, Scottie Scheffler, 71.26%. 7, Joel Dahmen, 71.07%. 8, Cameron Smith, 71.01%. 9, Russell Henley, 70.89%. 10, Adam Hadwin, 70.88%.
Total Driving
1, Jon Rahm, 55. 2, Viktor Hovland, 79. 3, Emiliano Grillo, 84. 4, Martin Laird, 98. 5 (tie), Jason Kokrak, Louis Oosthuizen and Hudson Swafford, 108. 8 (tie), Collin Morikawa and Davis Riley, 109. 10, Cameron Young, 110.
SG-Putting
1, Tyrrell Hatton, 1.123. 2, Brian Gay, 1.068. 3, Cameron Smith, .922. 4, Lucas Herbert, .820. 5 (tie), Kelly Kraft and Brendon Todd, .783. 7, Beau Hossler, .765. 8, Tommy Fleetwood, .747. 9, Matt Kuchar, .742. 10, Billy Horschel, .697.
Birdie Average
1, Cameron Smith, 5.38. 2, Justin Thomas, 5. 3, Scottie Scheffler, 4.93. 4, Viktor Hovland, 4.92. 5, Patrick Cantlay, 4.83. 6, Cameron Young, 4.61. 7, Sam Burns, 4.6. 8, Collin Morikawa, 4.57. 9, Russell Henley, 4.54. 10, Harold Varner III, 4.49.
All-Around Ranking
1, Justin Thomas, 246. 2, Talor Gooch, 255. 3, Collin Morikawa, 323. 4, Sungjae Im, 327. 5, Hideki Matsuyama, 328.

LPGA TOUR STATISTCS
Driving Distance
1, Emily Kristine Pedersen, 282.521. 2, Nanna Koerstz Madsen, 280.16. 3, Lexi Thompson, 278.1. 4, Yuka Saso, 275.2. 5, Pauline Roussin-Bouchard, 274.974. 6, Bianca Pagdanganan, 274.923. 7, Minjee Lee, 274.75. 8, Charley Hull, 274.722. 9, A Lin Kim, 274.086. 10, Madelene Sagstrom, 274.
Greens in Regulation
1, Lexi Thompson, .78%. 2(tie), Hannah Green, Minjee Lee, Xiyu Lin and Jodi Ewart Shadoff, .76%. 6, Jennifer Kupcho, .75%. 7, 4tied with .74%.
Putts per GIR
1, Jeongeun Lee6, 1.685. 2, Patty Tavatanakit, 1.686. 3(tie), Celine Boutier and Danielle Kang, 1.709. 5, Xiyu Lin, 1.715. 6, Brooke M. Henderson, 1.719. 7, Su Oh, 1.728. 8, Jessica Korda, 1.729. 9, 2tied with 1.735.
Sand Save Percentage
1, Lydia Ko, .85%. 2, Jennifer Chang, .82%. 3, In Gee Chun, .75%. 4, Brittany Altomare, .71%. 5, Charlotte Thomas, .69%. 6, Atthaya Thitikul, .67%. 7(tie), Ashleigh Buhai and Alison Lee, .66%. 9, 2tied with .65%.

CHAMPIONS TOUR STATISTCS
Schwab Cup money leaders
1, Miguel Angel Jiménez, $738,914. 2, Steven Alker, $710,961. 3, Retief Goosen, $597,363. 4, Bernhard Langer, $504,660. 5, Scott Parel, $500,332. 6, Jerry Kelly, $339,875. 7, Lee Janzen, $327,262. 8, Tim Petrovic, $320,253. 9, Stephen Ames, $318,671. 10, K.J. Choi, $269,236. 11, Ernie Els, $227,432. 12, David Toms, $225,200. 13, Paul Broadhurst, $221,709. 14, Rod Pampling, $215,328. 15, Gene Sauers, $210,610. 16, Woody Austin, $210,107. 17, Alex Cejka, $198,502. 18, Doug Barron, $191,429. 19, Brian Gay, $180,053. 20, Robert Karlsson, $175,442. 21, Rocco Mediate, $156,140. 22, Brandt Jobe, $150,252. 23, Vijay Singh, $145,570. 24, Marco Dawson, $145,306. 25, Bob Estes, $141,260.

Alabama WR and draft prospect John Metchie III didn't see his family in Canada in person for two years because of the COVID-19 pandemic. "It was tough," he said. **AP FILE**

NFL DRAFT

Pandemic's role matters

By Michael Marot
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — This year's NFL draft prospects reluctantly recall their personal COVID-19 experiences.

Some consider them inspirational reminders of obstacles already overcome. Others sound more reminiscent of old war stories. And while the stories change, each comes with unforgettably vivid detail and heartfelt emotion about a challenging two-year battle to pursue their dreams.

Pandemic protocols prevented Alabama receiver John Metchie III from seeing his Canadian family for two years. South Dakota State running back Pierre Strong played 24 games in 10 months. Minnesota tackle Daniel Faalele tipped the scales at 405 pounds after opting out of the 2020 season. Kentucky guard Darian Kinnard worked out by flipping logs while his mother tended to hospitalized patients and UConn defensive tackle Travis Jones dealt with the cancellation of a season.

None of it was easy.

"I'm glad my family was safe and all," Metchie said in March. "Not seeing my mom for two years was tough. I knew, eventually, I'd see her again. Of course, technology nowadays helps. It's not the same as seeing them in person, but it definitely helps."

This draft class arrived on campus with the exuberant expectation of a traditional college experience and instead wound up using video calls to socialize, isolation to continue playing and pure grit to cope with constantly evolving rules, regulations and restrictions.

It lost the 2020 spring football schedule and planned individual workouts with whatever they could find nearby. Even when they did return to campus, uncertainty remained.

Some Big Ten schools started practicing in pads before university presidents pulled everyone off the field and announced no games would be played. When the SEC and other leagues didn't follow, Ohio State quarterback Justin Fields and his Buckeyes teammates petitioned conference officials to reinstate the season.

The effort worked — sort of.

"It's crazy," Ohio State tackle Nick Petit-Frere said. "The season got canceled, came back, games got canceled. We played one of the most crazy seasons you could ever imagine in the history of college football and somehow, the Ohio State Buckeyes were in the (national) championship game. ... This has been a once-in-a-lifetime two or three years."

But in some cases, the physical and mental toll came with a cost.

But for everyone hoping to be drafted, the life-changing twists and turns they've faced on the path to this year's draft will help keep football in perspective.

"To think at the end of it all, I'm talking in front of you guys, with an NFL microphone, an NFL nameplate, at a combine with a chance to do what almost every little kid, or every athlete dreamed of," Petit-Frere said at the scouting combine in February. "When I think about that and I think about where I am now, I can't really imagine how it happened."

IN BRIEF

Rahm living up to his billing at Mexico Open

News services

Jon Rahm is the biggest star in the Mexico Open and he lived up to his billing Thursday, chipping in for birdie and making a late eagle putt for a 7-under 64 and a five-way share of the early lead in the first round.

Jonathan Byrd, Brendon Todd, Trey Mullinax and Monday qualifier Bryson Nimmer also were at 64.

The Mexico Open is part of the PGA Tour schedule and inherits the history of a national open that dates to 1944.

The event in Puerto Vallarta takes the place of the World Golf Championships-Mexico Championship that was at Chapultepec in Mexico City for four years through 2020.

■ Minjee Lee shot an 8-under 63 to take a one-stroke lead over top-ranked Jin Young Ko halfway through the first round of the Palos Verdes Championship. Coming off a third-place tie Sunday in the LA Open at Whilshire Country Club, Lee had a bogey-free round at hilly Palos Verdes Estates in the first-year event that wraps up the LPGA Tour's West Coast swing. Lee won the Evian Championship last season for her first major title and sixth LPGA Tour victory.

NHL: Kings forward Dustin Brown will retire after this season, his 18th with the club. The 37-year-old made the announcement ahead of the Kings' regular-season finale. The Kings will face the Oilers in the first round of the Western Conference playoffs. Brown has played in a franchise record 1,295 regular-season games during his 18 seasons with the Kings. He has 325 goals and 387 assists in his career.

Soccer: Cristiano Ronaldo's fifth goal in three gamessalvaged a point for Manchester United in a 1-1 draw against Chelsea that further damaged his team's chances of a top-four finish in the Premier League. United currently is in sixth place. It is five points behind fourth-place Arsenal and has played two matches more than its rival.

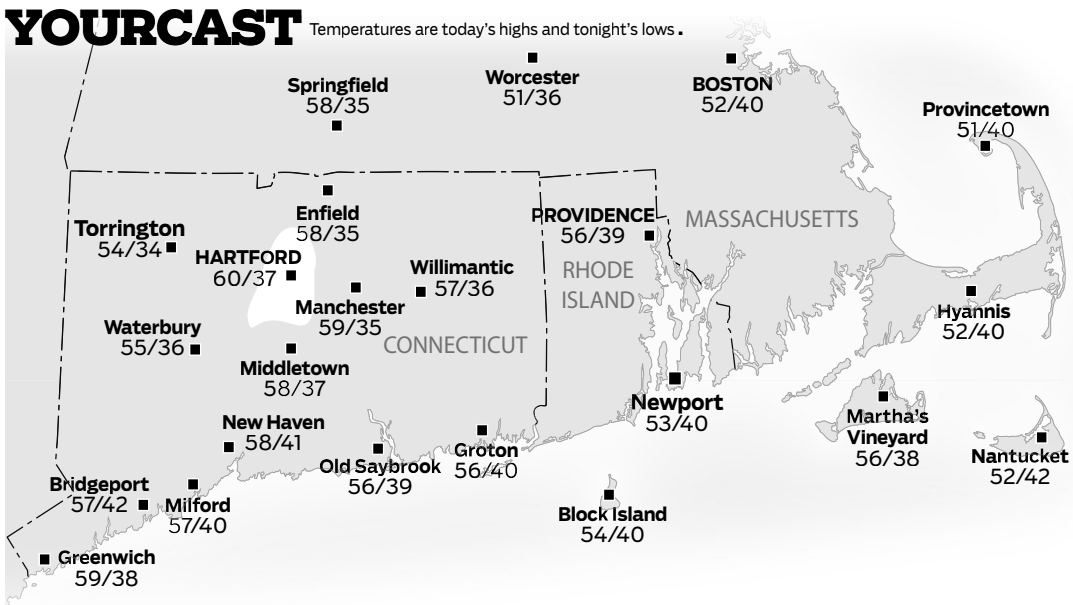
WEATHER

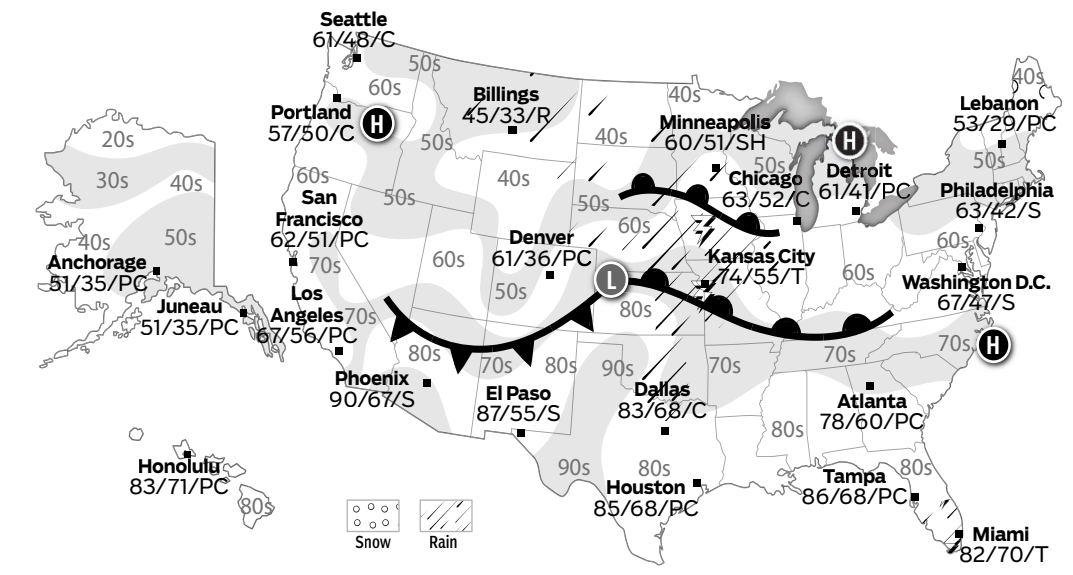
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Sunny and breezy. Northwest wind at 10 to 15 mph.	Morning sunshine, some afternoon clouds.	Mostly sunny and mild.	Mostly cloudy, chance for a few showers.	Mostly cloudy and milder, a few showers around.
HIGH 60°	HIGH 61°	HIGH 69°	HIGH 61°	HIGH 68°
LOW 37°	LOW 38°	LOW 44°	LOW 48°	LOW 50°

CONNECTICUT WEATHER
For the latest weather news throughout your day.
courant.com/weather

YOURCAST

Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.





OUTLOOK

One last breezy day on Friday with northwest winds at 10 to 15 mph and peak gusts up to 30 mph. While it will be breezy, sunshine will be abundant and high temperatures will range from the mid-50s to the lower 60s. The weekend starts off with more bright sunshine Saturday morning, then some fair-weather clouds will filter into the region during the afternoon. High temperatures will remain in the mid-50s to the lower 60s. Sunday will be sunny and milder with high temperatures in the 60s to near 70 degrees. Lots of cloudiness with a few showers around on Monday and Tuesday.

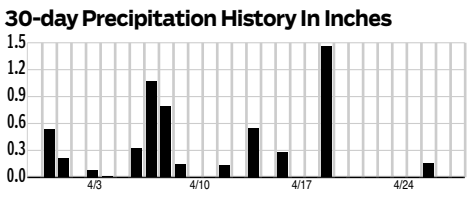
-Gary Lessor

ALMANAC

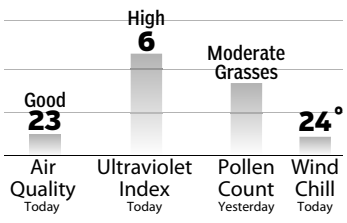
Precipitation In Inches	Total	Normal
Yesterday (by 7 p.m.)	0.00	0.13
Month to date	5.22	3.61
Total this year	14.70	13.83

Precipitation, temperature at Windsor Locks

30-day Precipitation History In Inches



Air Quality Forecast For Today



	Today	Tomorrow
Sunrise	5:50 a.m.	5:49 a.m.
Sunset	7:46 p.m.	7:47 p.m.
Moonrise	5:26 a.m.	5:49 a.m.
Moonset	6:44 p.m.	7:49 p.m.

Moon Phase

New	First	Full	Last
Apr 30	May 8	May 16	May 22

Tides	High	Low	Temp.
N.L. State Pier	9:09 a.m.	3:31 a.m.	51°
	9:28 p.m.	3:33 p.m.	
Saybrook Jetty	10:20 a.m.	4:24 a.m.	51°
	10:39 p.m.	4:26 p.m.	
Connecticut River at Portland	12:40 a.m.	8:10 a.m.	
	1:03 p.m.	8:12 p.m.	
Madison	10:47 a.m.	4:37 a.m.	50°
	11:02 p.m.	4:47 p.m.	
New Haven	11:07 a.m.	5:01 a.m.	51°
	11:22 p.m.	5:11 p.m.	
Stamford	11:11 a.m.	5:15 a.m.	49°
	11:26 p.m.	5:25 p.m.	

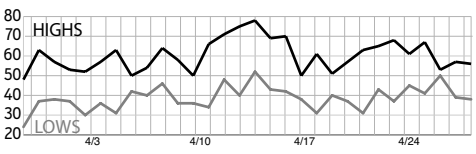
River Stage at Hartford: 5.92 feet at 6:30 p.m.

Boating Weather	L.I. Sound W MSunny	L.I. Sound E MSunny	B. I. Sound PCloudy
Wind	NW, 15-20	NW, 15-20	NW, 10-20
Seas	2-3 ft.	2-4 ft.	3-5 ft.

Temperature	High	Low
Thursday	56 at 3:48 p.m	37 at 4:26 a.m
Normal for date	66	43
Record for date	94 in 2009	29 in 1972
A year ago	78	47
Range this year	78	-2

Heating Degree Days	Season	Normal	Last Season
For July 1 - April 28	5155	5635	5210

30-day Temperature History



Atmosphere	High	Low
Barometer	29.95 at 9 a.m.	29.87 at 3 p.m.
Dew point	25° at 1 a.m.	5° at 6 p.m.

AROUND THE WORLD

Today's forecast in cities not included in the maps above:

NEW ENGLAND			
Bangor	48	35	SH
Burlington	51	34	PC
Caribou	40	30	SF
Concord	54	31	PC
Montpelier	47	28	PC
Mt. Wash.	18	14	C
Portland	53	36	C
Woods Hole	55	35	S

NATION			
Albany	58	33	S
Albuquerque	78	45	S
Atlantic City	63	34	S
Baltimore	64	39	S
Bismarck	49	39	SH
Boise	57	40	PC
Buffalo	54	35	S
Charleston	78	59	PC
Cincinnati	68	55	PC
Cleveland	61	40	S
Indianapolis	67	54	PC
Jacksonville	81	59	PC
Las Vegas	84	63	S
Miami Beach	79	73	T
Milwaukee	52	45	C
Nashville	80	60	C
New Orleans	84	69	PC
New York	61	44	S
Okla. City	80	55	C
Omaha	69	50	T
Orlando	84	64	PC
Pittsburgh	63	36	S
Raleigh	71	54	PC
St. Louis	74	63	SH
Salt Lake City	58	38	PC
San Antonio	86	69	PC
San Diego	66	57	PC
San Juan	85	74	PC
Tucson	87	55	S

WORLD			
Amsterdam	57	39	C
Athens	72	59	C
Bangkok	95	82	T
Barbados	86	75	T
Beijing	70	54	C
Beirut	76	65	PC
Berlin	64	43	PC
Bermuda	68	61	PC
Budapest	66	45	PC
Buenos Aires	61	45	PC
Cairo	96	75	S
Cancun	85	75	T
Dubai	102	84	PC
Dublin	55	48	PC
Edinburgh	59	44	PC
Helsinki	46	32	PC
Hong Kong	91	79	PC
Istanbul	68	50	PC
Jerusalem	86	63	S
Johannesburg	73	48	PC
Kingston	86	75	SH
Lisbon	79	61	S
London	55	43	C
Madrid	73	50	PC
Mexico City	90	73	PC
Milan	72	54	C
Montreal	55	36	S
Moscow	50	32	R
Nassau	86	70	SH
New Delhi	111	82	S
Paris	68	50	C
Prague	64	41	PC
Rio de Janeiro	97	70	R
Rome	75	50	PC
Seoul	64	50	R
Singapore	93	75	T
Stockholm	51	30	PC
Sydney	81	66	PC
Tel Aviv	75	62	S
Tokyo	66	48	R
Toronto	57	34	S
Vancouver	57	46	PC
Warsaw	57	39	SH

KEY: **S** Sunny, **C** Cloudy, **PC** Partly Cloudy, **R** Rain, **SH** Showers, **SN** Snow, **SF** Snow Flurries, **T** T-storms

Weather page produced by WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY Weather Center

WEDNESDAY'S LATE HIGH SCHOOL RESULTS

BASEBALL

Others
ST. PAUL 12, NORTHWEST CATHOLIC 2 (5)
NWC 100-**10**—2-1-6
SP 811-**11**—12-12-2
WP: Brendan Foley. **LP:** Ben Hall. Rec.: **SP**—11-0; **NWC**—4-5. **Note:** Foley had 8strikeouts and was 2-for-3with a run scored. Devin Kulas was 3-for-4with a triple, 2doubles, 2 RBI and Steve Morelli had a triple, 3RBI. Riley Carew had a double, run scored for Northwest.

BOYS TRACK & FIELD

NCCC
SUFFIELD 126, SMSA 12
SUFFIELD 107, GRANBY 43
GRANBY 135, SMSA 11

GIRLS TRACK & FIELD

CCC-West
GLASTONBURY 106, CONARD 43
NCCC
SUFFIELD 140, SMSA 4
SUFFIELD 99, GRANBY 43
GRANBY 106, SMSA 16
SCC
CHESHIRE 113, CAREER 36
CHESHIRE 93, LAW 57
LAW 97, CAREER 34

BOYS TENNIS

Shoreline
OLD LYME 5, MORGAN 2

GIRLS TENNIS

CCC-North
BULKELEY/HMTCA 4, BLOOMFIELD 3
CCC-Inter
E.O. SMITH 7, LEWIS MILLS 0
NCCC
ELLINGTON 5, BOLTON 2

FRIDAY'S HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

ALL GAMES AT 3:45 P.M. UNLESS NOTED

BASEBALL

CCC-**South:** Maloney at Platt, 6p.m.
CCC-**East:** East Hartford at Manchester; Tolland at E.O. Smith
CCC-**West:** Conard at Simsbury, 6p.m.
CCC-**Inter:** Berlin at Newington; East Catholic at Windsor; Avon at Middletown; Lewis Mills at Farmington; RHAM at Hall; Glastonbury at New Britain; Northwest Catholic at Bristol Eastern; South Windsor at Wethersfield, 4p.m.; Southington at Enfield, 4:45p.m.
NCCC: Stafford at Rockville; Granby at Somers, 4p.m.; Bolton at Windsor Locks, 6:30p.m.
Shoreline: Old Lyme at Old Saybrook, 4p.m.; Cromwell at East Hampton, 4p.m.; Morgan at Valley Regional, 4p.m.; Westbrook at Coginchaug, 4p.m.
CTC: Goodwin Tech at Grasso Tech; Cheney Tech at Ellis Tech; Wright Tech at Wilcox Tech; Prince Tech at Norwich Tech; Vinal Tech at Windham Tech, 4p.m.
CRAL: Civic Leadership at Innovation, 3:30p.m.; Weaver at Parish Hill
SCC: Wilbur Cross at Sheehan; Xavier at Hand; Hillhouse/Career at Lyman Hall
NVL: St. Paul at Wolcott, 4:30p.m.
Others: University/Classical at East Granby, 4p.m.; Ellington at Hartford Public/HMTCA, 4p.m.

SOFTBALL

CCC-**North:** Hartford Public at Bloomfield; New Britain at Rocky Hill, 6p.m.
CCC-**South:** Lewis Mills at Maloney; Middletown at Platt
CCC-**East:** E.O. Smith at Enfield
CCC-**West:** Avon at Conard; Glastonbury at Farmington, 4 p.m.
CCC-**Inter:** Simsbury at RHAM; Bristol Eastern at Newington, 4p.m.; Southington at South Windsor, 4:30p.m.; East Catholic at Plainville, 6:30p.m.; Berlin at Windsor, 6:30p.m.
NCCC: Rockville at Stafford, 4p.m.; Somers at Granby, 4 p.m.; Windsor Locks at Bolton, 4p.m.; HMTCA at Ellington, 4p.m.
Shoreline: Cromwell at East Hampton, 4p.m.; Westbrook/Portland at Coginchaug, 4p.m.; Valley Regional at Morgan, 4p.m.
CTC: Grasso Tech at Goodwin Tech, 3p.m.; Wilcox Tech at Wright Tech; Windham Tech at Vinal Tech; Norwich Tech at Prince Tech, 4p.m.
CRAL: Civic Leadership/Aerospace at Innovation, 3:30p.m.; Weaver at Parish Hill
SCC: East Haven at Hand, 4p.m.
ECC: Bacon Academy at NFA, 4p.m.
NVL: Wolcott at St. Paul, 4p.m.
Others: Bulkeley at University/Classical; Old Lyme at Stonington, 4p.m.

BOYS LACROSSE

CCC-**Central:** Glastonbury at East Catholic, 4p.m.
CCC-**Inter:** Rocky Hill at Lewis Mills, 4p.m.
NCCC: Ellington at Suffield/Windsor Locks, 4p.m.
Others: Norwich Tech/Windham Tech at Montville, 4p.m.

GIRLS LACROSSE

CCC-**South:** E.O. Smith at Enfield, 4p.m.; Wethersfield at Lewis Mills, 4p.m.; Middletown at Bristol Eastern, 5p.m.
CCC-**Inter:** Conard at RHAM; Northwest Catholic at Hall, 4p.m.; Windsor at South Windsor, 4p.m.; Simsbury at Tolland, 5p.m.; Rocky Hill at Avon, 6p.m.; Berlin at Farmington, 6p.m.
SCC: Cheshire at Amity, 4:15p.m.
Others: St. Paul at Southington, 7p.m.

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

CCC-**West:** Lewis Mills at Conard, 5p.m.
CCC-**Inter:** Simsbury at Glastonbury, 5p.m.; Wethersfield at Newington, 5p.m.; Bulkeley/SMSA at Farmington, 5p.m.; Southington at New Britain, 5p.m.; Hall at South Windsor, 6p.m.
Others: Wolcott Tech at Maloney, 5:15p.m.

BOYS GOLF

ECC: Plainfield at Bacon Academy, 3p.m.; Windham/Parish Hill at Wheeler, 3:15p.m.
Others: Walter Lowell Invitational (Blue Fox Run, Avon), 10:30a.m.; Somers at Enfield, 3p.m.

GIRLS GOLF

CCC-**East:** East Hartford at East Catholic, 3p.m.
Others: Amity at St. Paul, 3p.m.

TRACK & FIELD

NCCC: Stafford at Coventry, 4:30p.m.
Others: O'Grady Relays (Danbury HS), 5p.m.

BOYS TENNIS

CCC-**North:** Wethersfield at Rocky Hill
CCC-**South:** Bristol Eastern at Berlin, 4:30p.m.
CCC-**East:** E.O. Smith at RHAM; East Hartford at East Catholic; Manchester at South Windsor; Tolland at Enfield co-op
CCC-**West:** Northwest Catholic at Hall, 2:30p.m.; Simsbury at Avon; Glastonbury at Farmington; Conard at Southington, 5p.m.
NCCC: Ellington at Windsor Locks; Rockville at Granby
Shoreline: Old Saybrook at Coginchaug; Valley Regional at Old Lyme
SCC: Xavier at North Haven; Cheshire at Sheehan
Others: Newington at Stonington, 4:30p.m.

GIRLS TENNIS

CCC-**North:** Bulkeley/HMTCA at Bloomfield; New Britain at Newington; Rocky Hill at Wethersfield
CCC-**South:** Middletown at Platt; Berlin at Bristol Eastern; Maloney at Lewis Mills
CCC-**East:** Enfield at Tolland; South Windsor at Manchester; RHAM at E.O. Smith
CCC-**West:** Northwest Catholic at Hall; Farmington at Glastonbury; Avon at Simsbury; Southington at Conard, 5 p.m.
NCCC: Windsor Locks at East Granby; Granby at Rockville; Ellington at Coventry, 4p.m.
Shoreline: Morgan at North Branford; East Hampton at Valley Regional
SCC: Mercy at Hand; Branford at Lyman Hall
ECC: Bacon Academy at Windham/Windham Tech
NVL: Wolcott at St. Paul, 4p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S LATE COLLEGE RESULT

BASEBALL

EASTERN 22, LASELL 2

THURSDAY'S COLLEGE RESULTS

BASEBALL

EASTERN AT ROGER WILLIAMS, LATE

SOFTBALL

HARTFORD AT SIENA (2), LATE
SACRED HEART AT HOLY CROSS (2), LATE

MEN'S TENNIS

ENDICOTT AT TRINITY, LATE

WOMEN'S TENNIS

ENDICOTT AT TRINITY, LATE

BRUINS 5, SABRES 0

Bergeron hat trick leads Bruins to easy win

Associated Press

BOSTON — Patrice Bergeron recorded his eighth career hat trick and his 400th NHL goal, and David Pastrnak ended Boston's 0-for-39 power-play slump with his 40th goal of the season to lead the Bruins past the Buffalo Sabres 5-0 on Thursday night.

It was already 4-0 when Bergeron gathered in a pass from Charlie McAvoy in the center and wristed it into the net with 2:13 remaining for his third of the game. Hats came flying over the glass, and the Bruins hugged their captain, jumping up and down on their skates.

Linus Ullmark made 37 saves against his former team for his first shutout of the season as he tries to win the job as No. 1 goaltender for the playoffs.

In the Bruins' regular-season home finale, they scored their first power play goal since April 2. They failed to convert on their first three Thursday, making it 39 in a row, then scored on two straight, with Taylor Hall making it 4-0 after the delay-of-game penalty assessed on the Sabres for unsuccessfully challenging Pastrnak's goal.

Dustin Tokarski stopped 27 shots for the Sabres, who will miss the playoffs for the 11th straight season.

After a scoreless first period, the Bruins broke through six minutes into the second following a flurry in front of the net that ended with the puck landing in front of Bergeron in the slot. With Tokarski on his backside and out of position, the Bruins captain easily poked the puck into the net.

Bergeron made it 2-0 six minutes later after Jake DeBrusk dug out the puck behind the net and slid it into the slot. The Sabres challenged, saying that Boston had gone offside long before the goal; the play was upheld.

Title IX

from Page 1

wake up tomorrow morning and tell these girls we couldn't have sports for them?"

To the question, D'Annolfo replied, "None. If it's good enough for the boys, it's good enough for the girls."

The board passed it and in the spring of 1972 girls tennis and track and field were offered for the first time at Conard and Hall high schools. More sports were added that fall and winter.

On Wednesday night, D'Annolfo and former and current Conard and Hall athletes and coaches gathered at Hall for an event titled "Passing The Torch," celebrating the 50th anniversary of Title IX and the start of girls sports in West Hartford.

Betty Remigino-Knapp attended that 1972 school board meeting and spoke up for the girls. Her father, Lindy Remigino, was an Olympic track gold medalist, and her mother, June, was athletic and encouraged her four daughters to play sports. Remigino-Knapp, who now coaches the Hall girls track and cross country teams, went on to coach at UConn and was the West Hartford schools athletic director for 20 years.

"We didn't have the opportunities girls have today," said Remigino-Knapp, who graduated from Hall in 1973. "We didn't have cross country. We were not allowed to run over 800 meters in our track meets."

Others talked about how organized sports had empowered them in life. Carson Bond, who graduated from Conard in 1976, went on to become an Air Force pilot and later a pilot for American Airlines for 32 years.

"Fifty years ago I was a pretty insecure kid, but Title IX offered me the opportunity to play sports in West Hartford," Bond said. "Being the captain of Conard's basketball team has some similarities to managing the crew of a 737. I don't think I could have been an Air Force pilot had it not been for school sports."

Marsha Adell, who graduated from Conard in 1993, became the first Black woman to serve as deputy fire marshal in West Hartford earlier this year after spending two decades as a firefighter.

"I was very fortunate to have some awesome coaches," said Adell, who ran cross country and track and played basketball at Conard. " All of them played a huge role in me being able to set strong goals, goals that are attainable but challenging. That really formed who I am today as an individual."

Karissa Niehoff, the former CIAC executive director who is now the CEO of the National Federation of State High School Associations, was the keynote speaker. She said that while women in sports have come a long way in 50 years, there is still a long way to go toward expanding opportunities for women in sports in administration, coaching and officiating.

"I'm one of the first woman CEOs to run a national sports organization," she said. "There is still no line at the ladies' room.

"I laugh with my colleagues, but you never lose the feeling that when you walk in the room, you're the only woman and you feel like there's a little bit more to prove and a little bit more to say."

Niehoff noted that she was mentored by D'Annolfo while teaching and coaching and serving as an athletic administrator in Connecticut.

"We need to develop a more robust pipeline for women to fill these roles," she said. "We need to give these young women the next step. Who takes their hand when they leave West Hartford? Suzi held my hand, every step of the way. We need Suzies. Tonight your call is to be a Suzi."

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NFL DRAFT

SPECIAL E-EDITION SECTION
Friday, April 29, 2022
FIRST ROUND RECAP

In most years, the early picks in the first round of the NFL draft feature quarterbacks, speedy receivers or cornerbacks. But this year, it was ...

Michigan defensive end Aidan Hutchinson, above, holds a team jersey after he was chosen by the Lions with the 2nd pick in the NFL draft on Thursday in Las Vegas. Georgia's Travon Walker, inset, is shown on a television screen in Renton, Washington, as he is drafted No. 1 overall. **AP PHOTOS**

A NIGHT ON THE EDGE

DEs Walker, Hutchinson drafted 1-2 in first round of draft

Analysis, Page 2

COMPLETE COVERAGE INSIDE

Breaking it down

An analysis of the first round, including which teams could see their pick provide an instant impact, and who may have buyer's remorse.
Page 2

Draft player profiles

A quick look at the 32 players selected in the first round, from the college they played at to the talents they will bring to their team.
Page 3

Vegas, baby!

Images from Night 1 of the draft, including the nervous moments just before names were called, and the celebrations thereafter.
Page 4

NFL DRAFT

FIRST ROUND | BREAKING IT DOWN

Doubling up or going bust?

By Nick O'Malley
Masslive.com

Grading the first round ...

Cincinnati cornerback Ahmad Gardner puts on a hat after being picked by the Jets with the fourth pick of the NFL draft on Thursday in Las Vegas. JOHN LOCHER /AP

1. JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS
The pick: Travon Walker, EDGE, Georgia
Grade: A, for "A lot faster than last year"
Roger Goodell took to the podium to announce the first pick of the draft at 8:17 p.m. That's a nine-minute improvement on last year, when the Trevor Lawrence pick was announced at 8:26 p.m. (and carried no mystery). This year's draft was a rarity in that there was uncertainty over who would be the No. 1 pick. For months, Aidan Hutchinson was the assumed No. 1 pick. But then Walker came flying up draft boards to steal the thunder for the top pick. The Georgia product tested incredibly well during the pre-draft process. Time will tell whether the Walker pick pans out.

2. DETROIT LIONS
The pick: Aidan Hutchinson, DE, Michigan
Grade: G, for gift
Hutchinson is the top player on a lot of people's boards. Going by draft rankings, this pick is a steal. Hutchinson was hugely productive at Michigan and tested well at the combine. He seems like a slam-dunk prospect.
If he pans out as expected, this could go down as a steal for the Lions. It could also make the Jaguars look real silly.

3. HOUSTON TEXANS
The pick: Derek Stingley Jr., CB, LSU
Grade: R, for Rebound
Stingley was a star for the Tigers as a freshman, but struggled with injuries and inconsistency over the past couple of seasons. For a while, there were concerns that he was going to fall down boards. However, it looks like his talent won out in the end as he goes down as a top-three pick. He could wind up being a building block for Houston as they look to rebuild that roster. Many mocks had Stingley going around No. 12. However, he flew up draft boards at the last second.

4. NEW YORK JETS
The pick: Ahmad "Sauce" Gardner, CB, Cincinnati
Grade: G, a good fit
This makes sense. The Jets were in dire need of a cornerback and wound up landing with a top-tier cornerback. The Texans surprised some by going with Derek Stingley at No. 3, which leads to New York landing a top talent at the position. Gardner was hugely successful in college, faring well against top competition. He should slot in well as a No. 1 cornerback for New York.

5. NEW YORK GIANTS
The pick: Kayvon Thibodeaux, EDGE, Oregon
Grade: D, for Defense
That's five picks and five defensive players out of the gate in this draft. That should tell you everything you need to know about this quarterback class. It should also tell you a lot about the talent of these pass rushers. For a while, Thibodeaux was in the mix for the No. 1 pick. However, there were some concerns about his motivation. Regardless, he's a sublime talent that should terrorize NFC East quarterbacks for a while.

6. CAROLINA PANTHERS
The pick: Ikem Ekwonu, OT, NC State
Grade: P, for Perfect Scenario
At No. 6 overall, we get our first offensive player of the draft in a scenario that worked out perfectly for Carolina. The Panthers needed help at offensive tackle. After a run of five defensive players to start out, they had their pick of the littler. It was surprising to see Ekwonu fall this far, but the Panthers will gladly take the athletic specimen that fell into their laps.

7. NEW YORK GIANTS
The pick: Evan Neal, OT, Alabama
Grade: T, for Tackle, and Two-fer
The Giants finish their two-for-one in the top 10 of the draft by grabbing Neal, who was projected to be the No. 1 pick early in the pre-draft process. He wound up falling a bit, but still projects to be an awesome, versatile talent who should contribute early. The Giants might end up hitting home runs with both of these picks.

8. ATLANTA FALCONS
The pick: Drake London, WR, USC
Grade: R, for Run on Receivers
London is the first receiver off the board in a class that's well-stocked with them. The USC product didn't run in pre-draft testing, but that didn't end up affecting his draft stock. As a result, the tall outside receiver goes to a Falcons team that is looking to rebuild its passing attack.
Expect a run on receivers to start after this.

9. SEATTLE SEAHAWKS
The pick: Charles Cross, OT, Mississippi State
Grade: S, for So Long, Russell Wilson
This is the pick Seattle got from Denver in the Wilson trade and goes toward the team's effort to rebuild their roster after losing everything from their dominant "Legion of Boom" era. Cross is the last of the top tier of offensive tackles on the board and wasn't likely to stick around too long.

10. NEW YORK JETS
The pick: Garrett Wilson, WR, Ohio State
Grade: F, for Fast Guy
The Jets grab a No. 1 receiver to help out Zach Wilson and the passing game. Wilson comes in as a dynamic receiver who can bust some big plays downfield and really provide some explosiveness. He could cause the Patriots some problems for years to come.
TRADE: Saints trade up to No. 11 overall (Commanders' pick)

11. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS
The pick: Chris Olave, WR, Ohio State
Grade: B, for Back-to-Back Buckeyes
Olave and Wilson came into this draft as two of the top receivers and wind up coming off the board on back-to-back picks. That's a heck of a showing for Ohio State and their program. Olave is a guy the Patriots would have loved to land. He's an experienced route runner with plenty of speed. He should contribute early on.
TRADE: Lions trade up to No. 12 overall (Vikings' pick)

12. DETROIT LIONS
The pick: Jameson Williams, WR, Alabama
Grade: S, for Scramble for Receivers
It started at No. 8, but teams are now in an all-out frenzy for receiver talent, with two straight teams moving up the board to grab one. The Lions flew up here, trading up from No. 32 to take Williams, who would have been the No. 1 receiver in this draft if not for an ACL tear in January. He may wind up being the best receiver in this draft.
TRADE: Eagles trade up to No. 13 overall (Texans' pick)

13. PHILADELPHIA EAGLES
The pick: Jordan Davis, DL, Georgia
Grade: B, for Big, Big Man
The Eagles make a move to grab one of the bigger risers in this year's first round. Davis is a monster of a defender at 6-foot-6, 341 pounds and moves incredibly well for his size. My guess is that Philly was afraid that the Ravens were chomping at the bit to grab him at No. 14. Instead, they foil those plans by leapfrogging them to add some bulk to their defensive line.

14. BALTIMORE RAVENS
The pick: Kyle Hamilton, S, Notre Dame
Grade: A for Absolute Steal, Probably
Well, if Hamilton is just going to fall into Baltimore's lap, the team might as well take him. Hamilton is a tremendous prospect who was the No. 1 player on some people's boards. However, he didn't run well at the combine. Still, he has great size and onfield speed at the position. He'll a chess piece that the Ravens will likely take advantage of on their defense.

15. HOUSTON TEXANS (VIA PHI)
The pick: Kenyon Green, OL, Texas A&M
Grade: B, for Boring and Sensible
After trading down, the Texans go with a solid, dependable guard who should slide in as an early starter for the offensive line. Green has slid down the board on some mock drafts into the 20s. However, he stays in the top 15 in the actual draft, with Houston seeing his value as a stable interior blocker.

16. WASHINGTON COMMANDERS (TRADED DOWN FROM NO. 11)
The pick: Jahan Dotson, WR, Penn State
Grade: R, for (Apparent) Reach
This one is a surprise. Dotson wasn't a consensus first-round pick. He has plenty of talent, but is on the shorter side as a receiver. If this pick doesn't pan out, it's going to look pretty rough for Washington down the road. In the Commanders' defense, most of the top receivers went off early, leaving them in a position where they have to scramble to take who was left.

17. LOS ANGELES CHARGERS
The pick: Zion Johnson, OL, Boston College
Grade: P, for Patriots Target
Johnson is a guy the Patriots probably would have wanted at No. 21. However, he goes off a little bit earlier than expected. Guard isn't the flashiest position to take. However, Johnson should slide in as a starter from Day 1. He should help out Justin Herbert right out of the game.
TRADE: Titans trade WR A.J. Brown to Philadelphia Eagles (per ESPN)

18. TENNESSEE TITANS (AS PART OF A.J. BROWN DEAL)
The pick: Treylon Burks, WR, Arkansas
Grade: C, for Chaos
Well, we've now reached peak chaos in this draft. Teams are trading up for receivers. Two teams have traded their top receivers in the middle of the first round. There are players flying all over the place. Meanwhile, the Titans take their return for A.J. Brown and spend it on a versatile Arkansas receiver who's been compared to Deebo Samuel. Burks has high potential. If he pans out, Tennessee will look like geniuses. If he doesn't, they'll look silly for trading a proven star.

19. NEW ORLEANS SAINTS
The pick: Trevor Penning, OT, Northern Iowa
Grade: V, for Value Pick
The Saints came into this draft really needing a new franchise tackle. Because of all the craziness above them, they wind up getting the No. 4 tackle on the board to fall into their laps.

20. PITTSBURGH STEELERS
The pick: Kenny Pickett, QB, Pitt
Grade: O, for Of Course Pittsburgh Took Pickett
The first quarterback is off the board, and it's a pick we probably should have seen coming a mile away. The Steelers needed a quarterback, and they had a good one come into this draft with Pickett. It seemed to easy to actually happen. But then it did.
TRADE: Patriots trade back from No. 21 (per NFL Network)

21. KANSAS CITY CHIEFS
The pick: Trent McDuffie, CB, Washington
Grade: B, for Belichick Does It Again
Of course Bill Belichick traded down again. Not just that, they traded down with a guy like McDuffie on the board. McDuffie was a popular pick for the Patriots in mock drafts this year. However, the Chiefs jump up and grab their man, filling a big need at cornerback. Of course, that's a position the Patriots needed to fill as well. Time will tell whether this was a blunder on the part of the Patriots.

22. GREEN BAY PACKERS
The pick: Quay Walker, LB, Georgia
Grade: N, for Not the Linebacker We Expected
Walker is the first offball linebacker to come off the board in this draft, which comes as a bit of a surprise. The athletic Georgia defender has been climbing up boards. However, many mocks didn't even consider him the best linebacker prospect on his own team, with Nakobe Dean getting that honor in most circles. Meanwhile, Utah LB Devin Lloyd has yet to come off the board, which is a surprise.

23. BUFFALO BILLS
The pick: Kaiir Elam, CB, Florida
Grade: A, for Anything Goes at This Point
We're at the point in the draft where the talent pool really flattens out and we're going to see value all over the place. Elam was seen as a late second-round prospect in some places. Clearly, the Bills disagree, taking the Florida product to strengthen their secondary.

24. DALLAS COWBOYS
The pick: Tyler Smith, OT, Tulsa
Grade: R, for Rebuilding Dallas' O-line
For a long time, the Cowboys were known for having one of the NFL's best offensive lines. However, they've fallen backward in recent years, leading to the team needing to rebuild there. Smith is a high-upside talent that could be a steal if he winds up panning out. He wasn't a consensus first-round pick. However, he likely wasn't going to fall much further, leading to Dallas taking him now.

25. BALTIMORE RAVENS
The pick: Tyler Linderbaum, C, Iowa
Grade: S, for Slam Dunk (It Appears)
The Ravens needed help at center. They had the top center in the draft fall right into their laps at No. 25. Linderbaum is on the smaller side, but is a great athlete for the position and comes in highly regarded as a blocker. He could wind up as one of the best value picks of this draft.
TRADE: Jets trade back into Round 1 (to TITANS' PICK)

26. NEW YORK JETS
The pick: Jermaine Johnson, EDGE, Florida State
Grade: F, for Finally, Johnson's Slide Stops
Wow, the Jets get what appears to be an absolute steal. After taking a top corner (Gardner) and receiver (Wilson), the Jets also get a prize pass rusher in Johnson. This comes as a surprise, as Johnson was moving up draft boards in recent weeks and was in the conversation as a top 10 pick. This could go down as an all-time great draft class. At least, that's what it looks like at this point. Things can change quickly, but this looks awesome for the Jets.
TRADE: Jaguars trade up to the Bucs' spot at No. 27

27. JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS
The pick: Devin Lloyd, LB, Utah
Grade: Y, for Yoink, From Right Under the Patriots' Nose
Lloyd seemed like an ideal fit for the Patriots after trading down to No. 29. Instead, the Jaguars wind up taking the athletic linebacker as a replacement for Myles Jack, who was released earlier this offseason.

28. Green Bay Packers
The pick: Devonte Wyatt, DL, Georgia
Grade: G, for Georgia's Other Big Man
While Jordan Davis got a lot of the attention in this draft, Georgia had another major talent at defensive tackle. Wyatt isn't quite as massive as Davis, but comes with solid size and great athleticism for his size. He's less of a space-eater, but can do a lot to help out Green Bay's defense.

29. NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS (TRADED DOWN FROM NO. 21)
The pick: Cole Strange, OL, Chattanooga
Grade: W, for What?
Well, Belichick has done it again. He's drafted a player that leaves experts in an initial state of shock and fans scratching their heads. The angry phone calls to sports radio stations will start tomorrow. Strange was a third-round prospect on many big boards, which will make this pick seem like a reach. On paper, it's comparable to the time the Patriots took Logan Mankins at the end of the first round, turning a little-known guard into an immediate starter. This pick will be met with a lot of criticism. If it doesn't pan it, it will go on Belichick's list of draft misses. If it hits, he'll look like a genius.

30. KANSAS CITY CHIEFS
The pick: George Karlaftis, EDGE, Purdue
Grade: G, for Good Value
This is a solid pick overall. Karlaftis was in play in the 15-20 range. Instead, he goes to the Chiefs at 30 and should develop into a defensive playmaker.

31. CINCINNATI BENGALS
The pick: Daxton Hill, DB, Michigan
Grade: P, Potential Patriot Off the Board
Hill was a popular pick for the Patriots during the pre-draft process. He's a versatile defensive back who can play deep safety and cover the slot.

32. MINNESOTA VIKINGS (FROM LIONS)
The pick: Lewis Cine, S, Georgia
Grade: G, for Georgia on the NFL's mind
That's one final Georgia taken to finish off Round 1 of the NFL Draft, capping off a wild day for Bulldogs heading into the NFL. Cine comes in as a physical defensive back who isn't great in man-to-man coverage, but can help a defense in a number of ways as a physical presence.

NFL DRAFT

FIRST ROUND | PICK BY PICK

1. Jacksonville Jaguars

Travon Walker, DE, Georgia, 6-5, 275 pounds
Breakdown: Speed and athleticism for his size and build are prototypical and he could probably add some weight without losing much of what makes him special. Pass-rush technique needs work. **Fact:** One-year starter whose production (13 tackles for loss and 9 ½ sacks) was just OK playing as part of a deep rotation at Georgia.

2. Detroit Lions

Aidan Hutchinson, DE, Michigan, 6-6, 265 pounds
Breakdown: Relentless and efficient pass rusher with a good combination of technique and an assortment of moves. Overall athleticism is a notch below some elite pass rushers who have gone in the top five in recent years like the Bosa brothers. **Fact:** The Heisman Trophy runner-up is the son of former Michigan defensive lineman Chris Hutchinson.

3. Houston Texans

Derek Stingley Jr., CB, LSU, 6-1, 195 pounds
Breakdown: Strong man-to-man technique. Plays balanced to mirror receivers. Can get lost in zone coverage and in run support.
Fact: Stingley was an All-American as a freshman but injuries (foot in 2021) and regression by the rest of the defense undercut his next two seasons.

4. New York Jets

Ahmad Gardner, CB, Cincinnati, 6-2, 190 pounds
Breakdown: Tall, long-armed and fast. Moves his lanky frame smoothly and plays aggressively at the line of scrimmage. Not a lot of power in his game and he can get grabby, but the corner nicknamed Sauce was the definition of lockdown.
Fact: Did not allow a TD reception in his three-year college career.

5. New York Giants

Kayvon Thibodeaux, DE, Oregon, 6-5, 258 pounds
Breakdown: Pounces past blockers to make plays in the backfield with uncanny burst and length. Long, lean build doesn't lend itself to adding weight.
Fact: Seemed destined to be a first overall draft pick after freshman season, but between injuries and a shortened pandemic season he never put together a fully dominant year.

6. Carolina Panthers

Ikem Ekwonu, OT, NC State, 6-4, 310 pounds
Breakdown: Light on his feet and able to lock up defenders with his long arms. Can get a little too aggressive at times — 10 penalties in his career — but it comes with a desirable toughness. Scores high marks for leadership and likability off the field.
Fact: Nicknamed Ickey after former Bengals running back Ickey Woods by a youth football coach.

7. New York Giants (from Chi.)

Evan Neal, OT, Alabama, 6-7, 335 pounds
Breakdown: Remarkable combination of size and explosive athleticism. Balance and sustaining blocks need to become more consistent, but as long he keeps his weight in check there is a lot to like. **Fact:** Started 40 games and missed only one in his three-year career, which ended as an All-American.

8. Atlanta Falcons

Drake London, WR, USC, 6-5, 210 pounds
Breakdown: Enormous catch radius with long arms and good hops. Makes lots of contested catches and runs through tacklers after the catch. Top-end speed is lacking and route running needs more precision. **Fact:** Was on the way toward Heisman Trophy consideration in 2021 before a right ankle fracture cut his season short.

9. Seattle Seahawks (from Den.)

Charles Cross, OT, Mississippi State, 6-5, 310 pounds
Breakdown: Good size and length, Cross plays with balance and patience as a pass blocker. Could use some bulk and his run blocking will need development after playing in pass-happy offense. **Fact:** Blue-chip prospect out of Mississippi elected to stay in his home state over offers from Southern California and Florida State.

10. New York Jets (from Sea.)

Garrett Wilson, WR, Ohio State, 5-11, 185 pounds
Breakdown: Highly skilled at tracking the flight of the ball. Works the sideline adeptly with excellent footwork and has speed and precision to run away from defenders. On the lean side. **Fact:** Playing with other star receivers limited his production, but he caught 23 touchdown passes in 33 career games with 19 starts.

11. New Orleans Saints (from Wash.)

Chris Olave, WR, Ohio State, 6-1, 188 pounds
Breakdown: Quickness to win off the line of scrimmage and speed to get separation in the open the field. Like his Buckeyes teammate, Wilson, he lacks power, but he's hard to cover and catches pretty much everything.
Fact: Set an Ohio State record with 35 touchdown catches.

12. Detroit Lions (from Min.)

Jameson Williams, WR, Alabama, 6-1, 180 pounds
Breakdown: Dynamic speed burner who became the top deep threat in the country last season (19.9 yards per catch). Only one season as a starter and it ended with a torn knee ligament in the national championship game. **Fact:** Transferred to Alabama from Ohio State, where he played behind Wilson and Olave for two years.

13. Philadelphia Eagles (from Cle. via Hou.)

Jordan Davis, DT, Georgia, 6-6, 340 pounds
Breakdown: Massive anchor in the middle of a defense, but with uncommon athleticism and speed (4.78 in the 40 at the combine). Questions about whether he can be the type of pass rusher that makes him a high-snap-count interior lineman.
Fact: All-American who won the Bednarik Award as the nation's best defensive player.

14. Baltimore Ravens

Kyle Hamilton, S, Notre Dame, 6-4, 220 pounds
Breakdown: Rangy and dynamic athlete who tends to show up in places that offenses don't anticipate. His 40 times (4.59 at the combine) were underwhelming and might limit him in some defenses, but he has a knack for game-changing plays.
Fact: Was limited to seven games in 2021 because of a right knee injury.

15. Houston Texans (from Mia. via Phi.)

Kenyon Green, G, Texas A&M, 6-4, 325 pounds
Breakdown: Powerful and versatile lineman who played four different positions in his time with the Aggies. A punishing run blocker who has struggled some with recognition in pass blocking.
Fact: Father was an offensive lineman at Grambling and his mother played volleyball at UCLA.

16. Washington Commanders (from Ind. via Phi. and NO)

Jahan Dotson, WR, Penn State, 5-10, 178 pounds
Breakdown: Undersized, but a darting route runner with reliable hands and elusiveness after the catch or as a kick returner.
Fact: Moved into the starting lineup late in his freshman season and finished with 183 catches, second in school history.

17. Los Angeles Chargers

Zion Johnson, G, Boston College, 6-3, 316 pounds
Breakdown: Durable prospect who combines long arms, quick feet and good awareness. Powerful opponents can get him off balance, but Johnson is about as safe a bet as there is in the draft. **Fact:** Transferred from Davidson to Boston College where he became a three-year starter, taking the extra year of eligibility to become a fifth-year senior with 58 college games.

18. Tennessee Titans (from NO via Phi.)

Treylon Burks, WR, Arkansas, 6-2, 225 pounds
Breakdown: Another big, physical receiver who outmuscles defenders for the ball and breaks tackles after he gets it. A developing route runner who did lot of damage on quick throws near the line of scrimmage.
Fact: Set Arkansas record with six 100-yard receiving games.

19. New Orleans Saints (from Phi.)

Trevor Penning, OT, Northern Iowa, 6-7, 330 pounds
Breakdown: Salty competitor with great size and enough of athleticism to provide promise that he will be able to stay in front of NFL speed and quickness off the edge. But the whole game needs refinement. **Fact:** Did not have any Division I scholarship offers until his senior high school season.

20. Pittsburgh Steelers

Kenny Pickett, QB, Pittsburgh, 6-3, 217 pounds
Breakdown: Throws with good anticipation and seems to process quickly. Good athlete with a solid arm. This was not a draft with elite QB prospects, but Pickett is probably the safest bet to become a productive starter. **Fact:** A fifth season of college football turned Pickett into a first-round draft pick after setting Pitt records for passing yards and total TDs.

21. Kansas City Chiefs (from NE)

Trent McDuffie, CB, Washington, 5-10, 193 pounds
Breakdown: The latest in a recent line of tough and sound Washington cornerbacks. Lacking length, had only two interceptions in 28 career games (26 starts).
Fact: Talented musician can play the ukulele, bass, piano and guitar.

22. Green Bay Packers (from LV)

Quay Walker, LB, Georgia, 6-3, 241 pounds
Breakdown: Walker is the antithesis of Bulldogs teammate Nakobe Dean. Ideal size with all the measurables, but not nearly as instinctive and consistent.
Fact: Another Georgia defender whose snaps and starts were limited playing on a deep and talented roster. Walker only become a starter as a senior.

23. Buffalo Bills (from Ariz. via Bal.)

Kaiir Elam, CB, Florida, 6-2, 196 pounds
Breakdown: Big and fast, but played sloppily in 2021.
Fact: Father Abram Elam played seven seasons in the NFL. Nephew of Matt Elam, who also played at Florida and in the NFL.

24. Dallas Cowboys

Tyler Smith, OT, Tulsa, 6-5, 324 pounds
Breakdown: Powerful and long and plays with a mean streak. Technique needs smoothing out.
Fact: Started both of his two full seasons at Tulsa after redshirting as a freshman.

25. Baltimore Ravens (from Buf.)

Tyler Linderbaum, C, Iowa, 6-3, 290 pounds
Breakdown: Timing, consistency, technique, effort and quickness rate about as well as you can for the position. Makes up for what he lacks in size by being a fierce competitor. **Fact:** Moved from defensive line to center as a redshirt freshman and then started 35 games over his last three seasons.

26. New York Jets (from Ten.)

Jermaine Johnson II, DE, Florida State, 6-5, 262 pounds
Breakdown: Plays with power, leverage and great effort, making him effective rushing the passer and against the run. After he only played full time one season, Johnson's technique and fundamentals are underdeveloped. **Fact:** With a fifth year of eligibility, Johnson transferred from Georgia to Florida State in 2021 and became the ACC defensive player of the year.

27 Jacksonville Jaguars (from TB)

Devin Lloyd, LB, Utah, 6-3, 235 pounds
Breakdown: Aggressive, hard-hitting and versatile linebacker who should be able to fill multiple spots in multiple schemes. Recognition and discipline needs some work. **Fact:** All-American and Pac-12 defensive player of the year in 2021 had 43 tackles for loss in 33 career games.

28. Green Bay Packers

Devonte Wyatt, DT, Georgia, 6-3, 315 pounds
Breakdown: Disruptive with good quickness to play two gaps but could use more power in his play.
Fact: Returned for a fifth college season in 2021 (including a year at junior college) and developed into an All-Southeastern Conference player and second-team All-American.

29. New England Patriots (from SF via Mia. and KC)

Cole Strange, G, Chattanooga, 6-5, 307 pounds
Breakdown: Versatile offensive lineman with major upper-body strength and a beast at run-blocking.
Fact: Was a five-year starter at the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga and was selected as a third-team FCS All-American for the Moccasins as a senior last season.

30. Kansas City Chiefs

George Karlaftis, DE, Purdue, 6-4, 275 pounds
Breakdown: Quick off the ball with strong hands to knock blockers off balance, but arms shorter than ideal and needs to finish more plays after 14 ½ career sacks in 27 games. **Fact:** Moved to the United States in eighth grade from Greece and started playing football after being an elite youth water polo player.

31. Cincinnati Bengals

Daxton Hill, S, Michigan, 6-0, 190 pounds
Breakdown: Durable, athletic and plays smart. Nickle cornerback skills, but size and strength are ordinary.
Fact: Former five-star recruit picked Michigan over Alabama out of high school in Oklahoma.

32. Minnesota Vikings (from L.A. Rams via Det.)

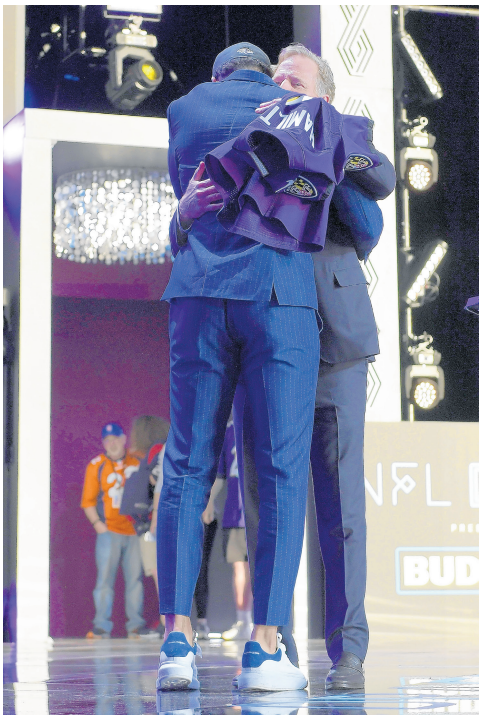
Lewis Cine, S, Georgia, 6-2, 199 pounds
Breakdown: Covers a lot of ground in run support and plays with good fundamentals, but coverage skills need work.
Fact: Defensive player of the game in Georgia's national championship victory against Alabama.

NFL DRAFT

FIRST ROUND | THE NIGHT IN IMAGES

Top prospects gather on the stage during the first round of the NFL draft Thursday in Las Vegas. **JAE C. HONG/AP**

Betting on winners



Kyle Hamilton hugs NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell after being selected 14th by the Ravens. Hamilton was a second-team All-American last season at Notre Dame. **DAVID BECKER/GETTY**

Fans gather ahead of the first round of the NFL draft on Thursday in Las Vegas. **BRIDGET BENNETT/THE NEW YORK TIMES**

Alabama wide receiver Jameson Williams celebrates with fans after being chosen by the Lions with the 12th pick. Williams tore his ACL in last season's national title game. **JAE C. HONG/AP**

Steelers Hall of Famer Franco Harris speaks to the crowd, The Steelers selected Pitt QB Kenny Pickett. **DAVID BECKER/GETTY**

A Vikings fan shows his purple pride. **JAE C. HONG/AP**

Ohio State wide receiver Garrett Wilson shows off his new jersey with Goodell after being chosen by the Jets with the 10th pick of the draft. **JOHN LOCHER/AP**